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Fisherman

75¢

— THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION —

May 9th—15th, 1985
Volume 20, Number 18

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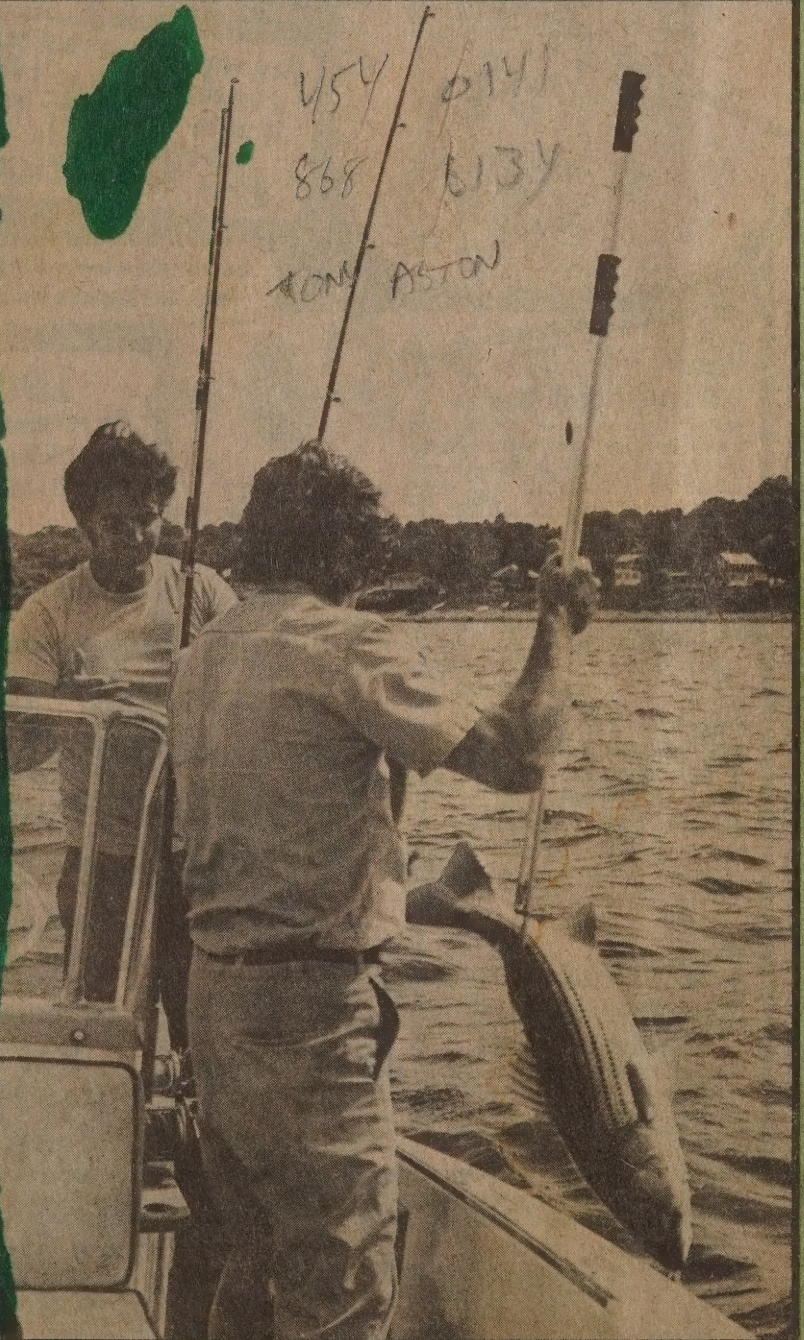


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THE Fisherman

— THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION —

Volume 20, Number 18

May 9th, 1985

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ABOUT THE COVER:

With this week's opening of the striped bass season, come some new regulations that all recreational anglers should be aware of. Among them are a two fish per day bag limit and a shortened season which runs from May 8 through November 30. See page 4 (Pass It On) for a complete rundown.

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The clinic will run from Noon till 9PM and will include big discounts on a large selection of name brand fishing tackle. Look for the Sears ad in the May 16th issue of The Fisherman for the outstanding buys and giveaways Sears will be running. All are welcome to attend.

NEW REGULATIONS MARK OPENING OF STRIPER SEASON

Environmental Conservation Commissioner Henry G. Williams recently announced adoption of new regulations designed to further protect declining stocks of striped bass in the marine waters of New York State.

The new management regulations are designed to meet New York's commitment to reduce by 55 percent the take of Chesapeake Bay striped bass stocks by marine recreational and commercial fishermen. The regulations are not connected to the issue of PCB contaminants in striped bass.

"To minimize any adverse impact on commercial and recreational fishermen, the department selected a shortened season and reduced the bag limit to two fish for the recreational fishermen," Williams said. "This is sufficiently restrictive to reduce landings without seriously disrupting the recreational fishery for striped bass."

The new regulations affect only marine waters, which are defined as the tidal waters of the state including the portion of the Hudson River lying between the Battery and the George Washington Bridge.

The regulations provide:

- An open season from May 8 through November 30 which is 37 days shorter than previously. The season now opens three weeks later and closes 15 days earlier than last year.

- Striped bass may not be taken in marine waters, nor landed in New York State, nor imported into New York from December 1 to May 7 inclusive.

- Striped bass may not be sold, traded or bartered during the period January 1 to May 7 regardless of origin.

- A 24-inch total length size limit. This size limit has been in effect for marine waters. Striped bass less than

24 inches in total length, unintentionally taken, must be immediately returned to the water without unnecessary injury.

- No person may land or possess on marine waters striped bass from which the head or tail has been removed, or which has been skinned or filleted so that the length cannot be measured or the identity of the species determined.

- Recreational striped bass fishermen may not be in possession of more than two striped bass at any one time. Previously, striped bass could be taken in any number.

- A commercial striped bass license is required of all commercial fishermen. A commercial fisherman is any person who takes striped bass by any method other than angling, or any fisherman who possesses more than two striped bass at any one time taken by any method, including angling, or a person in New York who first sells, trades, barter or offers, exposes or possesses striped bass for sale, trade or barter regardless of how taken. The annual resident fee for a commercial striped bass license is \$100; the annual non-resident fee is \$200. These fees remain unchanged.

Noting that declining stocks of striped bass are a continuing concern for East Coast states, Williams said that earlier restrictions on sizes and seasons have not been effective enough to reverse this trend. In 1983, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Striped Bass Board recommended that each state reduce the fishing mortality rate on Chesapeake striped bass by 55 percent in order to obtain adequate egg production and consequently a resurgence of the striped bass fishery.

In 1984, Congress enacted the federal Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act requiring states to implement provisions of the Interstate Fishery Management Plan by June 1985. If states fail to comply with the plan, the bill authorizes the United States Department of Commerce to implement a moratorium on striped bass harvest in such states. Williams said New York's new striped bass regulations meet these management requirements.

While the new regulations will result in some costs to fishermen and others, these costs will not be as severe as those from the imposition of the federal moratorium which would result if New York took no action, Williams said.

Striped bass regulations for the Hudson River upstream from the George Washington Bridge are unchanged. Recreational fishermen can take any number of striped bass over 18 inches in length from March 16

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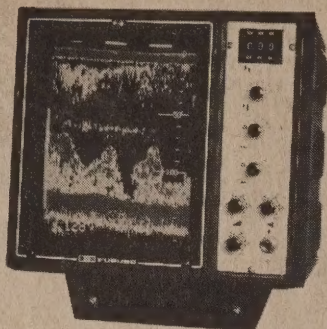
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"SALTY" FLYRODDERS SHELTER ISLAND RALLY

"Salty" Flyrodders of N.Y. Inc., are holding their annual Shelter Island Rally at the Pridwin Hotel, June 14 through June 16. Complete package price is \$98 per person. This includes a room for two days, Friday Buffet, Bar and Full Banquet Saturday of prime ribs, plus breakfast buffet Saturday/Sunday. May 14, 1985 is the closing date for reservations. All interested (novice to experienced) flyrodders can call President Dennis O'Brien at (718) 507-5808, or write as soon as possible to 45-26 80th Street, Elmhurst, Queens 11373.

Honoring this year's Rally will be Paul McKenzie, President of the Federation of Fly Fishermen, Eastern Council, and Jack Montague, Florida guide and well-known instructor of Salt Water Fly Fishing. This year's outing should not only offer the best of camaraderie, but also a chance to learn more about the great sport of Salt Water Flyrodding. Actual fishing combined with workshops and casting instruction will keep all very active through the weekend.

ISLAND PARK FLUKE TOURNAMENT

"Be A Fluke Buster" is the theme for the Second Annual Fluke Fishing Tournament, sponsored by the Island Park Chamber of Commerce!

This year's challenge and festivities will be held on the weekend of July 6 and 7, 1985. Prizes, ranging from \$100 to \$250 cash, plus valuable merchandise prizes will be awarded. Fishing tackle and savings bonds will be awarded in the Junior Division.

Anyone on the South Shore can enter and where and how you fish is up to you. Every entry blank also becomes a raffle for the many valuable prizes to be drawn. Proceeds from the tournament will go to a scholarship fund and to provide conservation information. Entry forms are available at most South Shore fishing stations and tackle shops. In addition, our local marine supply stores and banks are participating.

If you want a "Be A Fluke Buster" T-shirt, contact tournament chairman, Captain Steve Gordon at (516) 431-0555.

Join the crowd at Shell Creek Park, the afternoon of July 7th. Enjoy the entertainment, food and fun, and of course, find out if you're a winner! The time is from 4 until 7PM and the rain date is July 14th. Rules and weigh-in information will be available on your entry form.

Entry blanks are available at the following locations:

Tic Tac Toe Stationery Store, Isl. Park
Shane's Marine Supply, Island Pk
Ralph's Tackle Shop, Island Park
Skippy's Bait & Tackle, E. Rockaway

K&K Outboard Marine, Island Park
The Mooring, Oceanside
Lou's Fishing Station, Freeport
Long Beach Sports Marina, Long Bch
Bank of New York, Island Park
and Valley Stream
Westminster Bank, USA, Island Park
Andy's Fishing Station, Harbor Isle
Reynolds's Reef Fishing Station, Atlantic Beach
Beckmann's Tackle, Lynbrook
Scotty's Fishing Station, Pt. Lookout
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ANOTHER ATTEMPT AT USER FEES

Captain George Glas, Executive Director of the National Party Boat Owners Alliance warns that it is time to get those pencils sharpened up again. The administration has succeeded in getting a sponsor for another crack at User Fees; this time, Congressman Silvio Conte (R-MA) has sponsored the bill which is known as the "Coast Guard User Fee Authorization Act of 1985."

What they are asking for is carte blanche—the right to collect taxes, which they prefer to call User Fees, on all the items they wanted to hit the last time around. NPBOA received a draft copy of the proposed bill, but we are awaiting a copy of the bill as actually introduced. It has been given a number, H.R. 1936; as of this date it is not yet in print.

Don't confuse this Silvio Conte with Congressman Gerry Studds. Conte is on the Appropriation and Small Business Committees. Studds chairs the Coast Guard and Navigation Sub Committee. We are also glad to note that Congressman Breaux is bent out of shape with the administration's refusal to release an estimated \$77 million that was supposed to be earmarked for sport fishermen. That should help put him in our corner once again on the proposed User Fee ripoff. We'll keep you informed of further developments.

A DEADLY MIX FOR STRIPED BASS

New research into the impact of chemical contaminants on striped bass reproduction is revealing a strong link between acid rain and the decline of striper populations in Chesapeake Bay. An interim report just released by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service summarizing 1984 field studies in the Choptank and Nanticoke Rivers concludes that even brief increases in acidity in these important spawning rivers can cause "substantial, if not complete, reduction in numbers of young striped bass."

Dr. Paul Mehrle, who heads contaminant research at the Columbia National Laboratory as part of the Emergency Striped Bass Study into causes of the species' huge drop in numbers, says contaminants interacting with high acidity levels in the waters where the fish hatch and mature proves a toxic combination for the young bass. Even in fairly well buf-

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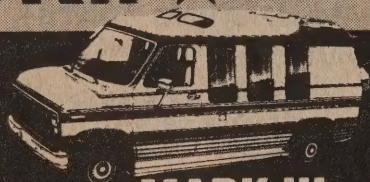
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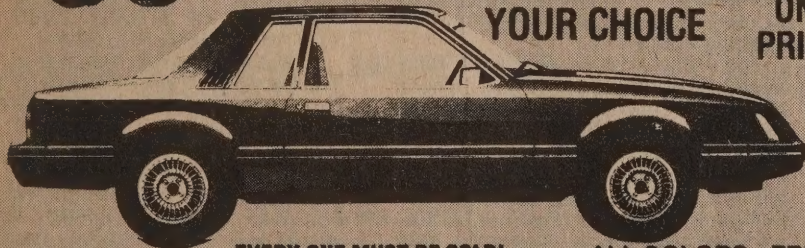
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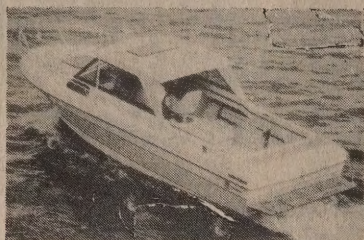
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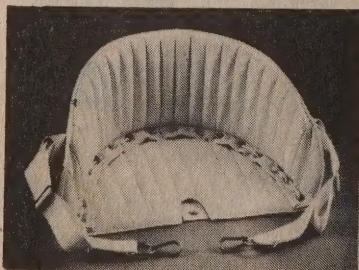
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fered (low acidity) waters, aluminum and other inorganics in in sufficient concentrations will impair swimming activity and feeding efficiency and cause mortality in immature striped bass. If the waters are poorly buffered, i.e., more acidic, then mortality rises significantly.

Acidity levels in the Choptank and Nanticoke Rivers have not risen permanently, Mehrle points out. Instead, the studies show "episodic" increases which are the result of acid deposition, either directly from acid rain, all or indirectly from heavy rains washing acids out of the soil and into streams and rivers. A rise in acidity for only 24 hours during spawning time, the report says, can severely reduce spawning success.

The Columbia Lab will continue to look at episodic as well as long term trends in acid levels in spawning areas, provided funding is renewed for 1986. But what is being done to control acid rain? Outside of independent efforts to cut sulfur and nitrogen dioxide emissions by the State of New York, Canada and the Tennessee Valley Authority—not much. The death of lakes, streams and forests has prompted no substantive action from Congress, and the Reagan Administration's own Office of Science and Technology Policy, for instance, concluded there is no reason to wait for more evidence before taking action.

NOT-SO-GRAND LARCENY

The Reagan Administration has responded to enraged fishermen, boaters and members of Congress by defending its controversial decision to impound sport fishing and boating enhancement funds as part of its deficit reduction plan. Senator Malcolm Wallop, co-author (with John Breaux) of the 1984 legislation expanding the Dingell-Johnson sport fish restoration program, accused the administration of "playing a shell game to hide their inability to make actual spending cuts."

The White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB), whose director David Stockman had previously offended farmers and veterans groups, added the nation's boaters and anglers to the list when it announced plans to withhold \$77 million in customs and marine fuel tax revenues from the Fiscal Year 1986 grant to states under the expanded program, known as the Wallop-Breaux Fund. Only new excise taxes on sport fishing equipment totaling \$6 million would be allocated to supplement the \$38 million earmarked under existing D/J taxes.

The impounded funds will be deposited in the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund and be made available for "future appropriations," presidential assistant Mary Jo Jacobi told National Coalition for Marine Conservation director Ken Hinman. "Given the present fiscal situation and the total context of the budget which called for a freeze in spending levels, we believe

this program and its beneficiaries have been very fairly treated in our 1986 budget."

"What Ms. Jacobi's saying, folks, is that we are lucky to get anything at all," says Hinman. "It is clear what the administration is up to. They are using the Wallop-Breaux money to paint a brighter face on the spending picture this year. The truth is, the deficit won't be any lower because of this action; the money is merely being left in the credit column for another year so that it appears lower. But more at issue is what this would do to the effectiveness of the entire program. D/J has been so successful largely because it is an annual funding source the states can rely on. If in the future the money becomes available only at the discretion of the OMB, it would cripple the ability of the states to maintain continuity in fishing and boating enhancement programs and to plan future projects. The administration has made a serious error, and they're going to have to admit it."

ATLANTIS ANGLERS ANNOUNCES NEW BRIDGE

President: Allen Rosenthal; Vice President: Paul Sedrish; Treasurer: Jay Ebbets; Recording Secretary: Jerry Grossberg; Corresponding Secretary: Ed Brosteck. Membership Committee Chrmn: Hal Eisenbaum; Fishing Committee Chairman: Ralph Horowitz; Entertainment Committee Chairman: Bob Brucato; Public Relations Committee Chairman: Ed Vogel. The 1984 Selections for the club's two most prestigious awards, namely the "William Duncan, Irwin Silberger, Paul Howcott Memorial Award," for outstanding fisherman: Mark Kaufman; and the "Captain of the Year Award": Ashley Fulton III.

Fishermen interested in joining our Freeport based club, contact Hal Eisenbaum, 516-678-4352.

WINNERS OF STRIPED BASS TAG RETURN PROGRAM DRAWING ANNOUNCED

The Hudson River Foundation for Science and Environmental Research (HRF) announced the winners of its first striped bass tag return drawing, held on February 28, 1985.

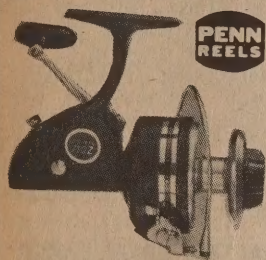
The winners of the two \$1,000 rewards were Alberto Ramirez, New York, NY and Ronald Young, Lincroft, NJ. The \$500 prizes were awarded to Walter Dimek, Bayonne, NJ and John Sullivan, South Hempstead, NY. The five winners of the \$100 rewards were Henry Griffith, Brooklyn, NY; Robert Gabrielson, Nyack, NY; Michael Corbisero, Sands Points, NY; Jay Adrighetti, Greenwich, CT and John Zakrzewski, Troy, NY.

In addition to these prizes, all fishermen who returned HRF tags to the Foundation received rewards for the amount printed on their tag, either \$5 or \$10 per tag. The returns were derived from a tagging program designed to learn more about the population biology of Hudson River

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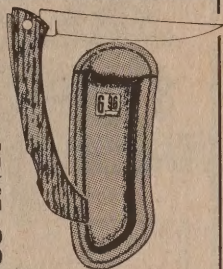
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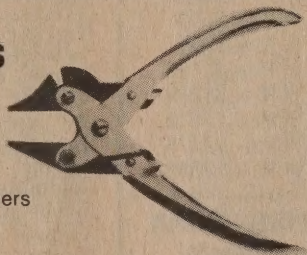
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striped bass. Approximately 750 striped bass were tagged in the Hudson River from Piermont to Cornwall in the Spring of 1984.

The results of the 1984 program are being analyzed and will be released by the HRF in the summer of 1985. The success of the tag return effort is attributable to all fishermen who returned tags and provided information on their recaptures. The Hudson River Foundation thanks everyone who participated in the program and urges fishermen to continue to look for HRF tags on the striped bass that they catch. Tags returned after February 28, 1985 will be entered in the February, 1986 drawing.

The Hudson River Foundation is a not for profit organization which sponsors scientific, economic and public policy research on matters of environmental, ecological and public health concern to the Hudson River and its tributaries.

NEW SALTWATER/GT. LAKES CATALOG FROM BASS PRO SHOPS

Bass Pro Shops, the fishing catalog giant, has just released their new Saltwater/Great Lakes edition Master Catalog. This special edition of their 1985 Master Catalog features an extra "Offshore Adventure" section filled with rods, reels, lures and tackle for the Great Lakes and Saltwater enthusiast. Cost for the full-color, 484-page catalog is \$3 and includes a free \$3 merchandise certificate. To order, write: Offshore Adventure Catalog, Bass Pro Shops, Box 4046, Springfield, MO 65808-4046.

THE PRICE OF OVERFISHING

The boom years in world fish harvest were 1950 to 1970. During these two decades, the global catch tripled from 21 to 66 million metric tons. Advances in fishing technology enabled commercial fishing fleets to scour the oceans far and wide. But we paid dearly for this "progress," a price we continue to pay. Many of the principal ocean fisheries were severely depleted "to the point of collapse"; among them, Peruvian anchovy, Alaskan king crab, Atlantic cod, haddock, Pacific salmon, herring (northeast and northwest Atlantic stocks), capelin, pilchard, halibut and Pacific Ocean perch.

Of these eleven fisheries, only one, North Atlantic cod, has even partly recovered, and "there is reason to doubt whether some of the others will ever recover," according to Lester R. Brown, a senior researcher for the World Watch Institute. Brown has published a study ("Maintaining World Fisheries," *State of the World 1985*) of the prospects for ocean fisheries. Aside from concluding that "the oceanic catch...may be very close to a sustainable maximum," he cites U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization statistics for the eleven fisheries mentioned above to calculate what overfishing and mismanagement have cost the fishing industry in lost harvest. The results are

startling. Comparing the 1981 catch for each species with the estimated potential catch (using conditions prevailing in the 1960s), more than 11 million tons of fish are lost to fishermen each year because of reckless fishing practices during those boom years when it was foolishly supposed that there was no limit to the amount of fish the ocean would yield.

MAKO ROUNDUP DETAILS

The Squaw Island Fishing Club is pleased to announce the details on the S.I.F.C. Mako Roundup scheduled from Saturday, June 15, 1985 at 6AM through Sunday, July 28, 1985 at 6PM (44 days) to all sport fishermen. The winner of the Mako Roundup will be the captain of an entered boat weighing in the largest mako shark at Frank and Dick's Bait Station, Seganus Thatch So., State Boat Channel and Babylon Cut, Babylon, New York, Dick Schmidt, weighmaster. The prize for the winning captain will be a choice of a Penn International 50V and matching custom rod or two (2) Penn International 50 reels. The captain of the boat catching the second place fish will choose between Penn 6/0 Special Senator reel and matching rod or a Penn International 50 reel. To be eligible, a boat must be pre-registered for the Mako Roundup no later than Thursday, June 13, 1985. The entry fee for the boat will be \$25 and must be paid with the entry application.

No limit to the number of mako weigh-ins per registered boat, but all weigh-ins must be at Frank and Dick's Bait Station, Seganus Thatch So., State Boat Channel and Babylon Cut, Babylon, NY. Only one prize per boat will be awarded.

For more information or for a representative of the Squaw Island Fishing Club to address your fishing club about the details of these events, please contact Ralph Lennon at 226-2305 weekdays 9:00 to 4:00.

"STREN" VACATION SPECIAL

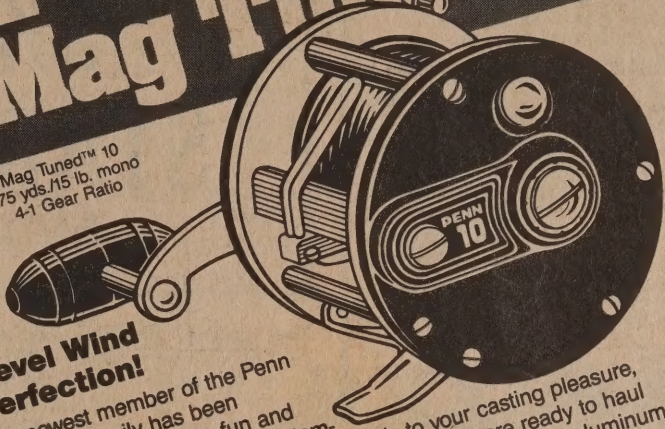
Serious fishermen know that quality headgear is a necessity for protection from the blazing summer sun. Whether you're a serious fisherman or not, a free fishing cap from DuPont, maker of top-selling "Stren" fishing line, will keep you cool throughout the summer months.

The baseball-style cap has mesh sides for cool comfort. Best of all, the yellow, black and white cap features the famous "Stren" logo.

A \$5 retail value, the "Stren" fishing cap is free in exchange for proof of purchase from any two 250-yard reel fill paks of "Stren" line bought between April 25 and May 25, 1985. The cap offer applies to all varieties of "Stren" including clear, clear/blue fluorescent, golden fluorescent, and new "Stren" Class Line, the aqua fluorescent line designed specifically for record fishing.

Order forms for the summer fishing cap are available wherever "Stren" fishing line is sold.

Penn Mag Tuned™ 10



Mag Tuned™ 10
275 yds./15 lb. mono
4-1 Gear Ratio

Level Wind Perfection!

This newest member of the Penn Level Wind family has been engineered for maximum fun and minimum fuss. The exclusive, custom-installed magnetic anti-backlash system adds to your casting pleasure, while Penn's proven level wind and powerful star drag are ready to haul in those big ones. Ball bearings, high speed gear ratio, anodized aluminum spool, counterbalanced torpedo handle... perfect for muskie, salmon, walleye or bass! **Color Catalog.** See your retailer or send \$1. Dealers inquire.

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MAKO

THE NEW 20's
'You'll Find Them Where the Fish Are'

The new Mako 20B has five great new features. A 60 gallon fuel tank, a huge in the deck fish box just forward of the splash well, dry storage for batteries port and starboard of the engine, a drop down transom door, and a casting platform forward with a large well. We've kept the recessed teak rod lockers and the large dry storage and insulated ice box in the console. She's self-bailing with foam floatation. The 20 is the perfect boat for all types of fishing. So, whether you're getting bait in shallow water, trolling the beach for blues, or fishing offshore for sailfish, the 20 will perform beautifully. She is a boat for all seasons.

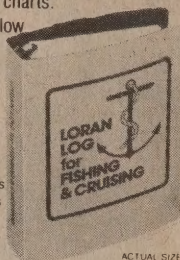


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BOATS FOR ANGLERS:

SKEETER STARFIRE 150

by Pete Barrett

The original Skeeter was designed over 30 years ago and laid the groundwork for what was to be the fore-runner of the modern bass boat. Holmes Thurmond constructed the boat from plywood and this first Skeeter was only 13 feet long with slanted sides, a flat bottom and a sharp bow.

The transition into fiberglass came very quickly as this bass anglers "dream boat" became famous. Light in weight, easy to clean and maintain, and able to float into the skinniest of pond water, these early bass boats helped fishermen gain more access to favorite hawg haunts.

The narrow beam was perhaps the only drawback. In 1975 Skeeter began the trend to widen bass boats and to further modernize the hull bottom design. The Wrangler, introduced at the 1975 Bass Anglers Sportsman Society annual championship tournament, was more than two feet wider than other bass boats making for a more stable fishing platform. The hull used a vee design for more lift and greater speed while operating at full throttle, yet the new boat drew hardly any more water than its predecessors.

The Starfire 150 is a direct descendant of that once radical tournament boat and it's a fine example of how bass boats have progressed in the last 10 years. The Starfire is sleek, wide, fast and roomy, plus there is a generous amount of storage space.

Starting forward, the bow casting platform is wide enough for not only the angler and a pedestal chair, but there is plenty of room to mount an electric anchor, flasher and electric trolling motor with foot controls. There is storage beneath the forward hatch directly in back of the pedestal seat.

A rod storage locker is built into the port side running from just forward of the bench seat up to and partially under the bow deck. It is covered and lockable to keep unwanted hands off valuable tackle. The interior of the compartment is carpeted for protection against scrapes and to help cushion the rods during bumpy rides.

The aft raised deck is very well thought out. Looking from the stern

forward, a pair of aft hatches open to the right and left to gain entry into a storage area and for access into the battery, bilge pump and engine wiring area.

The live well is also built into this raised deck and is divided into two parts to keep tournament catches of two anglers separated. In non-tournament fishing, the live well could be used for keeping fresh bait alive for long periods of time. Bass boats aren't just used by bass purists and you will find them doing duty on large impoundments for trout, walleye and pike.

Just forward of the wells is a glove box compartment on the port side and a large storage area under the seats. The Starfire is available in a special "Tournament" version that offers additional fuel capacity but which uses up some of this storage area due to the larger tank.

The console is positioned on the starboard side, molded into a rounded, bullet style that looks great. Gauges and controls are mounted on a panel to the right of the console. The console is small and compact leaving little room for top-mounted electronics. A temperature gauge and flasher is best mounted flush on the control panel, a graph recorder on the top of the console.

Another storage area has been built in just forward of the console. This is a good spot for cameras, foul weather gear, extra clothes and special fishing gear.

The pedestal seats can be dropped down into the recessed mounts so they are nearly flush with the deck while running. The seats have folding backs so they are low with no wind resistance. The seat backs on the bench seat also fold down while fishing so they are not in the way of casting.

Decks are covered with a marine grade vinyl carpet for noiseless fishing and a non-skid surface so you can stand in comfort and safety while fishing.

The hatches are constructed of fiberglass reinforced at hinge points for strength and long life. Hinges were top quality. The fit of the hatches was perfect: no misfits were found on the Starfire I looked over.

*Skeeter has done a lot to make a good bass boat. It's obvious that the layout of the deck makes for easy fishing, but a closer look at the construction of the boat shows that the Skeeter will be easy to work on and it should last for a long time.

The hull is hand-laid of eight alternating layers of matt sheets and chopped roving. A 1½ inch thick marine plywood transom is completely encapsulated in fiberglass and with a pair of kneed supports anchored to it the transom will hold today's large horsepower engines. Hull chines are solid fiberglass and give the hull good tracking while running at high speeds. The hull is further beefed up with 4 longitudinal stringers that also support the decks.

At the factory there is a full-time chemist who continually checks every batch of resin, fiberglass and foam used in the construction of a Skeeter.

Wiring has been neatly done with what Skeeter calls a modular wiring harness. All the wiring is encased in a flexible ribbed plastic tube with each wire coded and marked to eliminate any possible error in connection. Adding your own electronics after you purchase the boat is clean and simple because of this wiring system.

I always peer into the bilges to get a better idea of how a company built a boat. If the outside gleams but the inside is a disaster, it usually means poor quality. The Skeeter is as well made down on the inside as it is on the outside. The interior spaces are finished well with no rough edges. Wiring, installation of pumps and plumbing, attachments of seat bases and other hardware is done with obvious care and attention to details.

Skeeter's choice of hardware should withstand use in tidal rivers where the water is slightly salty.

Tournament anglers will want to take advantage of the maximum horsepower ratings of the Starfire at 150 hp, but if you plan on non-competitive fishing, a smaller engine will do just fine and move you right along. I ran a Starfire with a 115 and it may not have been blindingly fast but it sure got up and went when the throttle was shoved down hard.

These are good boats for the serious bass fishermen and you will see many of them on the tournament trails, yet they will also appeal as a fine fishing platform while lake fishing for trout and pickerel and for tidal water anglers seeking a mixed bag of fluke, small blues and stripers.

SPECIFICATIONS

Length.....17'
Beam.....86½"
Transom Height.....22"
Maximum Horsepower.....150
Hull Weight.....1050 pounds
Fuel Capacity:
Standard.....18 gallons
Optional.....40 gallons

Manufactured by: Skeeter, 1 Skeeter Road, Post Office Box 230, Kilgore, Texas 75662, (214) 984-0541.

Here's a special offer to try the best IGFA saltwater fishing line in the world...MAXIMA

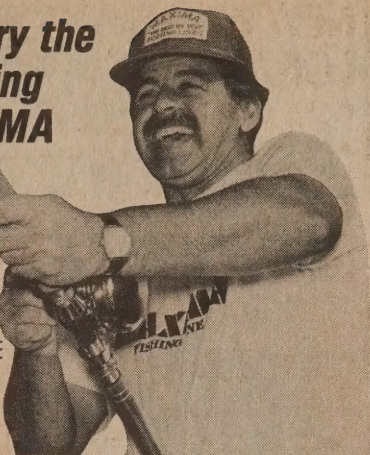
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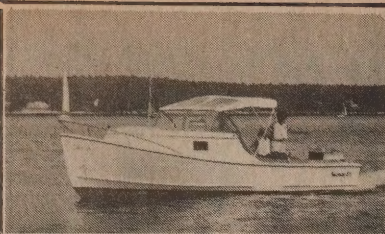
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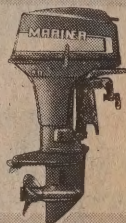


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THE TACKLE DOCTOR

by Russ Wilson

Dear Doc,

I am planning to purchase several new outfits for inshore fishing and am in a quandry as to which kind of tackle I should buy. I plan a lot of casting, some diamond jigging and quite a bit of plugging for striped bass and weakfish, and in-between I'd like to do some bottom fishing for blackfish and sea bass, and maybe some drift fishing for fluke.

I don't have a million dollars to invest in new tackle because I just went in hock for the boat, motor and trailer. Can you suggest some outfits that are reasonably priced, but will perform yeoman's duty?

Bill Grant.

Dear Bill,

We've all been there, so don't feel you are alone. You can pick up some reasonably priced tackle and still maintain quality but you will have to shop around.

I am guessing that you now own spinning equipment since you only recently purchased your boat and motor. I would suggest you purchase something along the lines of a popping rod which matches up with a mid size conventional style reel and 14 to 20 lb. test line or, if rated by lures, a rod that is capable of handling 4 to 6 ounces. This will give you a very versatile outfit, one that can be used for fluke, blackfish and sea bass or will serve double-duty as a jigging outfit.

You can go with spinning and many fishermen do, but when it comes to line or lure control, there is no disputing the fact that conventional type tackle is the hands-down winner for

most practical situations.

I'd look for a rod measuring about 6½ to 7 feet overall and one that is priced within the family budget. These are available at many tackle shops, sporting goods outlets and can be found at custom rod building companies.

Dear Russ,

I enjoy The Fisherman and also your column. While I fish primarily for saltwater game fish, I must confess a weakness for freshwater panfishing.

My problem is that while living in the Midwest, I was able to purchase a terrific panfish float and I am now on my last one.

The float I'd like to buy is cylindrical, about 1½ inches long and has a metal collar at the bottom. It's made of styrofoam. These cast well with ultra light tackle and offer low resistance to the fish. I get many more hook-ups than my pals when I use this type float.

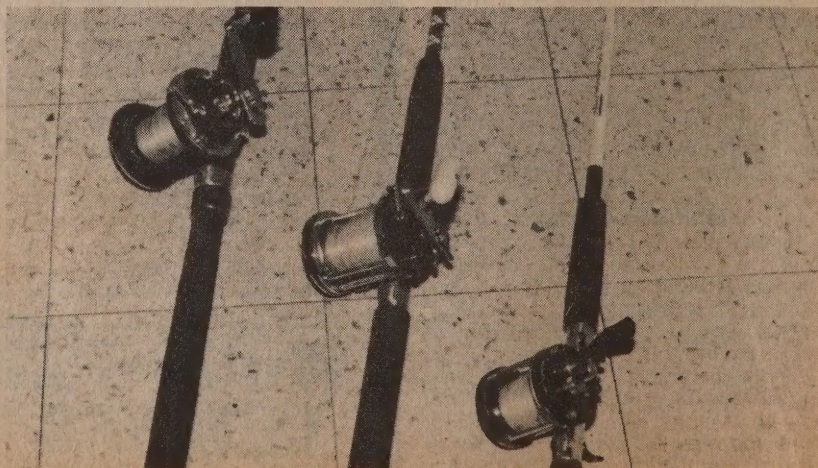
If you know where a float like this can be purchased, let me know. Enclosed is a self-addressed envelope.

Jim Dellavolpe.

Dear Jim,

I checked through at least a dozen freshwater catalogs and called a few of my sources in the Midwest. Zip; no one had any info on the float you describe, not even one friend who lives in Iowa and fishes that state plus the Dakotas for all kinds of panfish.

I've seen a float that's sold locally



The author favors conventional over spinning for versatility.

which comes very close to the one you've been using. This one, however, is touted as a snapper bluefish float. It is white and bright orange and is made of lightweight styrofoam and has the metal collar you describe. From what I gather, this float is available at tackle shops throughout the coastal area or wherever bluefish are found.

Several mail order houses currently market a featherweight quill type float such as those used on the English chalk streams and they, too, should give you what you're looking for as far as drag free use with literally no weight on the line.

Sorry I could not locate the exact product you want, but we did, I feel, find a passable substitute in that styrofoam snapper float or in the quill type sold by several mail order firms at a very reasonable price.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I followed the advice given in one of The Fisherman's articles recommending purchasing rods that had roller guides for shark fishing. I don't think I made the right buy and am not really all that sure that the person who wrote the story really knew what he was talking about.

After using those shark rods with roller guides two trips I found the rollers were not working.

I'm now planning to buy several shark rods with regular guides and I think they will do a better job. What's your opinion?
Tom Gannon.

Dear Tom,

I don't recall the article to which you refer. I checked the back issues for 1984 and couldn't find a recommendation for shark rods with roller guides although I did locate one story that mentioned using a roller tip and ring style guides.

We've used both rollers and standard type ring guides on our sharking equipment and have not found reason to fault either. The rollers do tend to stick if they aren't given continuous care. If you hope to get service from rollers you have to keep them clean and well oiled (not from drink). Any corrosion build-up in the guide bridges or between the roller mounts will cause the rollers to seize up immediately.

We spray our rollers with WD-40 and wash down the rods after each trip; then give them an additional shot of WD-40. It does keep corrosion and salt build-up at a minimum and we've yet to have a problem with the rollers not turning freely.

Some of our shark rods have ring type guides throughout and they also perform correctly, so it's strictly a matter of personal choice. But if you're going to use those rods for tuna or marlin, you'll be more successful with the rollers due to the speed at which these fish take line from the reel. We would not think of using anything but roller guides for tunas or billfish.

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REVISED WEAKFISHING

by Fred Golofaro

Reduced stocks and cold water conditions have forced weakfish fans to revise their approach to the game.

It's no secret that weakfishing in recent years pales in comparison to the boom fishing experienced through much of the 70s. Yet, despite the significant reduction in numbers, these speckled beauties continue to command the attention of most in-shore anglers during the month of May. This is especially true of those who frequent Great South and Peconic Bays. Unfortunately, for most of these tiderunner hopefuls, their efforts frequently go unrewarded.

While diminished stocks are the greatest contributing factor to reduced catches, a pattern of cold, wet springs has contributed as well. Water temperatures have been off as a result and this has had a direct effect on the movement and feeding habits of the yellowfins. As I write this, a relatively mild spring seems to have the fishing calendar in most bay areas a week to two weeks ahead of the past few seasons. This could have a positive effect on the weakfishing and provide us with some semblance of a spring run.

What all this amounts to, is that if you're looking to put yourself among the small percentage of anglers who continue to take weaks on a fairly consistent basis, you will likely need to revise your approach to the game. Keep in mind, too, that with few exceptions, those big scores of the 70s are a thing of the past. Anyone able to put away several weaks on a tide these days, should be more than satisfied with their efforts. Half a dozen tiderunners can be considered a banner day under most circumstances.

No longer can you leave the dock at your leisure and be content to drag a shrimp tout in your wake. While such an approach may result in an occasional "lucky" fish, you're really bucking odds. Back in the not too distant "good old days," you could have got away with it—not so today. The successful weakfisherman must now pay close attention to a combination of factors.

Tide, while always a factor in weakfishing, seemed to lose some of

its significance when hordes of yellowfins swept into our bays. Now, it is as critical a factor as any. Optimum feeding periods are often reduced to an hour or two of a particular tide. Unfortunately, there is no hard and fast rule concerning optimum tides for weaks. They vary from area to area and even from week to week. How do you pin down the "right" tide without being on the water daily? Past experiences in the spots you normally fish should give you a pretty good clue as to when to be on the water. Pay attention to details and clues such as those given in fishing reports. Even if the tide is not mentioned, you should be able to put yourself in the ballpark based on whether a particular catch was made in the morning, afternoon, etc. Don't be afraid to call or stop by a local tackle shop that has been reporting on weakfish catches. While they may be reluctant to release such valuable info to the general public via published reports, they would more than likely share the info with a potential



A bucktail bounced slowly along the bottom accounted for this fine tiderunner.

customer. A little detective work before embarking can save a lot of wasted time drifting over weaks with their mouths sewn shut.

Boat traffic has become another major consideration when seeking out weaks in such popular places as Peconic Bay's South Race and Great South Bays's ocean beach grounds.

If at all possible, plan your trips for the less congested weekdays. Those of you who must fish on weekends should plan to be on the water at the crack of dawn before less zealous boatmen congregate. And don't rule out night fishing. If you're comfortable running a boat after dark, some of the best weakfishing in recent years has been taking place under the cover of darkness. The nocturnal feeding habits of weaks, combined with minimal boat traffic, are two major reasons nighttime anglers have been so successful.

Less competition for available food and the aforementioned colder than normal spring water temperatures make presentation of your bait or lure a critical factor. Since the vast majority of weaks taken at this time of the year are hooked within a few feet of the bottom, a certain amount of skill is required to keep your offering in the strike zone. This is where a good many weakfishermen meet their demise, despite having all of the other factors in their favor. Adjusting the scope (amount of line released to keep your lure down) of your line and the weight of your lure according to changes in the flow of the current and speed of your drift is critical.

Keep in mind, too, that weakfish, while always having a fondness for sandworms, are particularly fond of meat when water temperatures are on the cool side. Some of the better scores made last season were credited to the worms as a result of last spring's colder than normal water temperatures. Also, novice anglers generally find presenting a natural bait such as a whole sandworm, less complicated than the proper presentation of an artificial. Don't overlook the addition of a strip of squid (especially fresh, local squid) to your jellyworm or rubber shrimp lure as added enticement. Some anglers in recent years have gone to a combo of a jellyworm, squid strip and sandworm with good success.

One final thought. Too many anglers are stuck on May as THE month to catch weakfish in our bays. Ten years ago, there was no reason to look beyond May. Indeed, most people had their fill of weaks by the time Memorial Day rolled around. Such was the intensity of the heralded "spring run." With that run now reduced in intensity and duration, I have actually found my best fishing in June, long after many people have chalked it up as another poor "season."

If you feel as I do, then you'll agree that the extra effort needed to score with these inshore favorites, is well worth it.

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PART OF THE GAME

by Matt Ahern

There is a lot more to the fishing game than just going out and catching fish.

It must have been three, four weeks ago. A Saturday morning. I sat gazing out the living room window, saddened and crestfallen. It was raining; not in torrents, but enough to be mighty uncomfortable for anyone in it. An easterly breeze stirred the newly-awakened buds of the pink dogwood, which stood forlornly, I thought, just outside the window. I shook my head in sympathy.

Just then my son, Steve, walked into the room. "Why so glum, dad?"

"Oh," I said "...just feeling sorry, I guess."

"About what?"

"The fellers. You know. The guys." To explain what I meant, I added: "Will you look at this weather. All week long it's been beautiful and now look at it. Go ahead, look. You want to know why I feel sorry? I'll tell you why I feel sorry. I feel sorry for those hard-working fishermen who sweated out the weather all week long and looked forward to this weekend. Just look at this lousy weather!" I finished up, again shaking my head in disbelief.

And then Steve said something that put everything into perspective.

"That's part of fishing, dad."

I sat quietly for a minute and mulled that over. He was right, of course. All those wet fannies; those bitter-cold, bone numbing codfishing days; those humid summer afternoons on the bay when you gasped for breath (phew!); those days when the weatherman fouled up and you awoke to a beautiful day, but much too late to take full advantage of it; those days when you thought the wind would blow the paint right off the boat; those days when you just knew the fish would bite, but they didn't; those days when every infallible sign you swore by told you no self-respecting fish would accept a bait, but this time they did. All this is part of fishing, no question about it.

Fishermen who have been reading these weekly articles over the years are aware my mail load is quite heavy. Seldom does a day go by when I fail to receive correspondence from anxious fishermen (and fisherwomen) seeking answers to numerous questions. Some sinker bouncers simply wish to chat, which of course is okay, too. Though I've never kept score, I'm certain my yearly average of letters received must total close to 3,000 (which does not include the hundreds

of requests for knot booklets, hook guides and other assorted goodies).

Now. Why would I continue to do this for the past 11½ years? I certainly don't get paid for it (I don't "Work" for The Fisherman). The answer is quite simple. I enjoy it, for I can easily remember when fishing information for us sinker bouncers was just about nil. (What we old-timers could have accomplished if such a magazine as The Fisherman had been available some 60 years ago!) Truly, it is not all of fishing to catch fish.

And that, too, is part of fishing, dad.

Just as one would expect, most mail I receive comes from adult fishermen. But there's also quite a bit that comes from youngsters, youngsters all eager and bright to latch onto a few fish. It seems a damned shame that many of these kid's letters are written by youngsters who have no one to turn to except a beat-up, by-line fishing scribe. I'll tell you right now, fellers, there's much fertile ground out there that needs seeding. And you and I better think twice before we unthinkingly banish these kids to some dark corner. It comes as no surprise that there are lots of evil characters out there just waiting to pounce. Therefore, a word to the wise is sufficient.

That's also part of fishing, dad.

Someone once said that the art of fishing is the great leveler. How true. One fisherman may be fortunate to have the wherewithall to own the finest fishing craft on the market, while another can only afford a small skiff, and another's finances may only permit him to enjoy his sport from a rental skiff, or perhaps only from shore. But does this division of wealth matter to a fish? Not one bit. Money, or the lack of it, will never sway the judgment of a fish as to the worth of a worm. It has always been so; it will always be so.

Some of that daily correspondence I mentioned before is quite diversified. Not only do I receive mail from kids and veteran fishermen, but I also hear from the those in the entertainment field: TV, radio, movie, and stage folk frequently write, too. Surely, the lure of fishing knows no bounds.

I'm sure you'd be surprised if you knew how many of these very nice people are just as interested in catching flounder, fluke, and all those

other bottom feeders you and I dote upon. You'd think, wouldn't you, that many of these well-known folk having the wherewithall to choose, would be the ones interested only in tuna, shark, and various billfishes? But not so. Old Freddie Flounder and Charley Codfish have a multitude of fans from all walks of life.

For instance, some ten years ago while fishing Shinnecock Canal for fluke, a tall, wet-set fisherman moved in beside me. We began to talk to each other the way all unknown-to-each other fishermen do: "How many you got? What bait you using?" and so on.

While this gentleman's voice sounded strangely familiar, I couldn't place it. Therefore, and being inquisitive by nature, I looked over my unknown companion with more than casual interest, but because he wore sunglasses, the voice didn't register. Not until he removed those sunglasses to mop his brow did I realize who he was—one of the most popular movie stars we have today, his name being a household word. You and I have seen him often in TV movie reruns (he's along in years now, but still working). He and I struck up a wonderful friendship which endures to this day.

I'm sorry I'm not permitted to divulge his name, but because of security reasons he has asked me not to (I checked with him before I wrote this article). But every year since, almost like clockwork, several days before the Fourth of July the phone will ring and that familiar voice will say: "Hi, Matt. I'm back. How's the fishing? Maybe some fluke, huh?"

And that, too, is part of fishing, dad.

I mentioned kids before and how enthusiastic they are about fishing. Well, as a kid I was no less enthused.

Some 60 years ago, one of my fishing buddies was Artie Leidecker, the same cod-hunting Artie Leidecker I fish with today. But at that time, cod were far from our minds—but flounder weren't. We'd do anything to go flounder fishing. We'd take the subway, the elevated lines, trolley cars, buses, any means of transportation in order to dunk bait for a flounder or two. Time and effort needed to succeed meant nothing.

One place we fished for flounder was Hook Creek. In summer, we'd load up with what I believe were th

largest blue claw crabs known to man. "Softies," safe they thought from all natural enemies, were rooted out of the watery marsh grass by the dozen. They failed to reckon on two kids who were fast learning the ways of wild-life.

But on this particular flounder fishing day I want to tell you about, a neighbor who had to conduct business in the Hook Creek area agreed to drive us to our flounder spot, with the promise of returning in late afternoon for the ride home. There was one particular rowboat station we used to patronize (fifty cents for the day—a quarter, if that's all you had) and we headed directly for it, happy as larks on a warm spring day.

We selected our rowboat with care (many of them leaked like a sieve), stowed our droplines and lunch and waited for the owner to show. We waited...and we waited. Finally we decided that the owner (who lived close-by) had overslept. Fussing and fuming over this man's callousness towards two hell-bent-for-leather young fishermen, we walked over the house, fully intent upon arousing him.

We knew which windows fronted on his bedroom because at one time we'd made so much noise horsing around under those windows, he raised one and, underwear-clad, threatened to call the police if we didn't quiet down so he could sleep—which anyone will agree is a poor way to run a fishing station business.

Well, anyway, we hung around awhile and the longer we waited, the louder we could hear those flounder calling us. What to do? It was Artie who suggested that maybe if we tossed a pebble or two at the bedroom window, old-sleepy-head would wake up. It sounded like a good idea to me. But that guy must have been in some sound sleep, for he never stirred. We were getting desperate. Time was swiftly passing and although in those early years we knew nothing about a tide's effect on flounder, we had sense enough to realize we were missing out on the best part of our early morning fishing.

"Maybe if you throw a couple of those old clam shells," Artie said. "We've got to wake him up, somehow."

But they scaled and struck the window's sill.

Then I got a bright idea. "Wait a minute. I'll be right back."

I went to the driveway and selected several small but hefty stones. "These'll do it."

And they did. The third one went clear through the glass, and a mighty roar erupted from the bedroom. No one has yet succeeded in capturing a thoroughly frightened boy in flight, and we two were proof positive that this is so. We fled, each instinctively separating, and each instinctively re-joining later. We never did go flounder fishing that day; and not only that, we lost our droplines and lunch to boot. But you know—that's part of fishing, dad.

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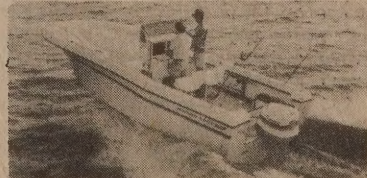
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ATLANTIC WRECK SERIES: TEXAS TOWER NO. 4

by John Raguso

The skeletal remains of the Texas Tower is probably the most intriguing of all the wrecks we're going to cover in this initial weekly series. Many unsuspecting anglers fishing the Tower area for the first time expect to see some sort of massive steel structure rising from the sea bed floor and are disappointed to find only open ocean in its place. However, it's what's below the surface that counts, and the abundance of submarine debris created by the Tower's collapse during a severe winter storm 24 years ago give this location all the attributes of a shipwreck, providing shelter and forage to many baitfish and pelagic gamesters with one major exception. Whereas a typical shipwreck will normally come up only a short distance off the ocean's bottom (20 to 50 feet), the two remaining support legs of Texas Tower No. 4 ascend to within 60 feet of the surface in 186 feet of water! Combined with the rusting hulk of the crew's quarters, helicopter landing deck and three radar domes, the Tower supplies a huge underwater habitat over an expansive area to attract more fish more often to its protective shadows, hence its tremendous popularity with Long Island and New Jersey fishermen.

Before we get immersed in the details of the varieties of fish to be found in the vicinity of the Texas Tower, let's take a step back in time to learn of its history, so as to better understand how to unlock its secrets.

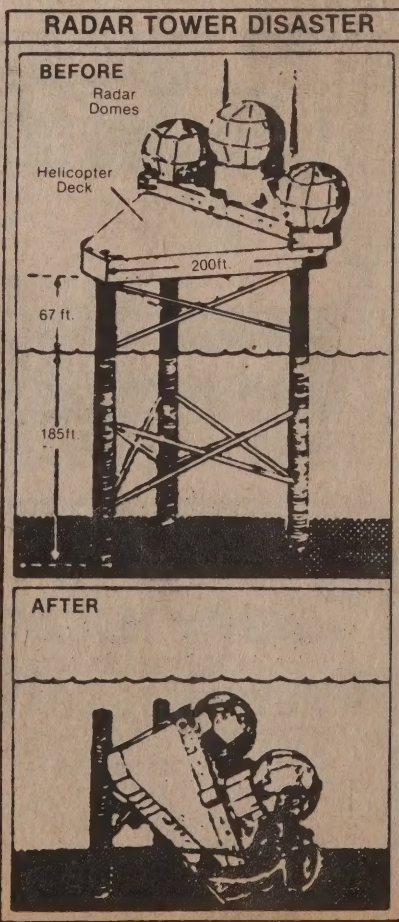
The Texas Tower-type USAF radar installations got their name because of design similarities to the Gulf Coast offshore oil drilling rigs. They were an integral part of a four system network of early warning radar stations designed to pick up precious seconds in tracking incoming missiles and planes for the nation's air defense back in the mid-50s. The other pieces of the puzzle were land-based stations, a picket fleet of converted Liberty ships designed to operate east of the string of Texas Towers for 500 miles, and finally a squadron of special aircraft. Originally, the game plan called for four towers, all situated off the northeast Atlantic Coast. Plans for tower No. 1 were scrapped, but towers 2, 3 and 4 were constructed and put in use. Towers 2 and 3, located 110 miles east of Chatham, Cape Cod and 60 miles east of Nantucket Island respectively, were situated in water 85 to 90 feet

deep. The ill-fated Tower, known officially as No. 4 and unofficially as "Old Shaky," was the largest of the three installations at almost 5,000 tons, being positioned approximately 57½ nautical miles south/southeast of Fire Island Inlet. It was also the last of these structures put up, becoming operational in 1957. The tower itself cost \$9 million to build, its radar and other electronic equipment adding an additional \$12 million to the price tag. This platform stood a minimum of 67 feet above the water that was about 186 feet deep, which was more than twice as deep as the two other installations. The tower platform, an equilateral triangle with 187-foot sides, had two full decks and a third partial deck. On one of these, a big recreation room was provided for the

crew with pool and ping-pong tables. Another deck housed a gymnasium and a galley, and the typical tower also included a woodworking shop, ceramics shop and electronics hobby shop. Two of the three support legs of the tower were filled with fuel oil and the third with sea water used for distilling into fresh water. The pilings of Tower No. 4 rested on sand and clay, while those of its counterparts were dug into solid rock. Unlike the other towers, due to its extended height above the seabed, the legs of Tower No. 4 were specially buttressed to provide additional support. Even with this added feature, the structure sometimes swayed as much as 14 feet, thereby picking up the notorious nickname of "Old Shaky" from those who were stationed there.

The atmosphere of these installations was somewhat desolate and not unlike that of a big Navy ship, except that the men referred to themselves as "troops" instead of a "crew," no doubt due to their USAF status. Those servicemen stationed at the towers were typically young and generally specialists in electronics. A normal duty rotation was 45 days on the tower, after which the serviceman was brought ashore by helicopter or ship for 15 days leave. The 45 days on, 15 days off routine would continue until 365 days active duty on the tower was accumulated, after which he would be transferred to a less isolated post. The ready complement of the tower was 70 servicemen.

Texas Tower No. 4 began experiencing trouble from its inception. According to a New York Times report, two of its principal leg braces were damaged during its up-ending procedure in the Summer of 1957, but the Navy officer-in-charge at the scene decided to proceed with its activation anyway, instead of towing it back to Portland, Maine for repairs. Subsequent to the installation, the two lost leg braces were replaced by two alternate braces of a different type and the job was completed in November, 1957. Bad luck continued to plague Tower No. 4 and two September Hurricanes, Daisy in '58 and Donna in '60, severely damaged the underwater bracings of the three supporting legs of the 22 foot thick triangular platform. Repair work was almost a continuous operation whenever wind and seas permitted and the Tower seemed to live up to its "Old



Shaky" monicker long before the night of its fateful demise. After Hurricane Donna buffeted this installation with 100 knot winds and 35 foot seas on September 12, 1960, the Air Force recognized the potential danger for the crew members who manned the radar platform.

Texas Tower No. 4 was partially evacuated on November 1, 1960 when it was determined that the damage sustained a few months earlier, by Hurricane Donna was more severe than originally anticipated. A bare subsistence crew of 14 servicemen and 14 repairmen remained stationed on the platform, but were known to have complained that "Old Shaky" was worse than ever.

The storm that doomed the radar tower began on Thursday, January 12, 1961. The early stages of this winter tempest had caused some new damage to the installation's support braces and this information, along with the pessimistic weather forecast, was relayed to Sector Command at Stewart Air Force Base. Since plans had already been developed to complete evacuate Texas Tower #4 on or about February 1st, so as not to subject the crew and repairmen to any unnecessary risks on future storm damage, the Sector Commander didn't see the need to move the date forward. However, as the storm of January 12th continued unabated and progressed into a more mature stage of rage, those stationed at the Tower could sense that something was amiss. By early Sunday afternoon of January 15th, winds were a steady 40 to 50 knots and the tower was being buffeted from the constant pounding of 30 foot seas. What made matters more hopeless was that the forecast now predicted that things would indeed get worse before they'd get better. At this point, the Tower Commander, Captain Gordon Phelan, decided to establish radio contact with the aircraft carrier USS Wasp stationed nearby, to expedite the evacuation process.

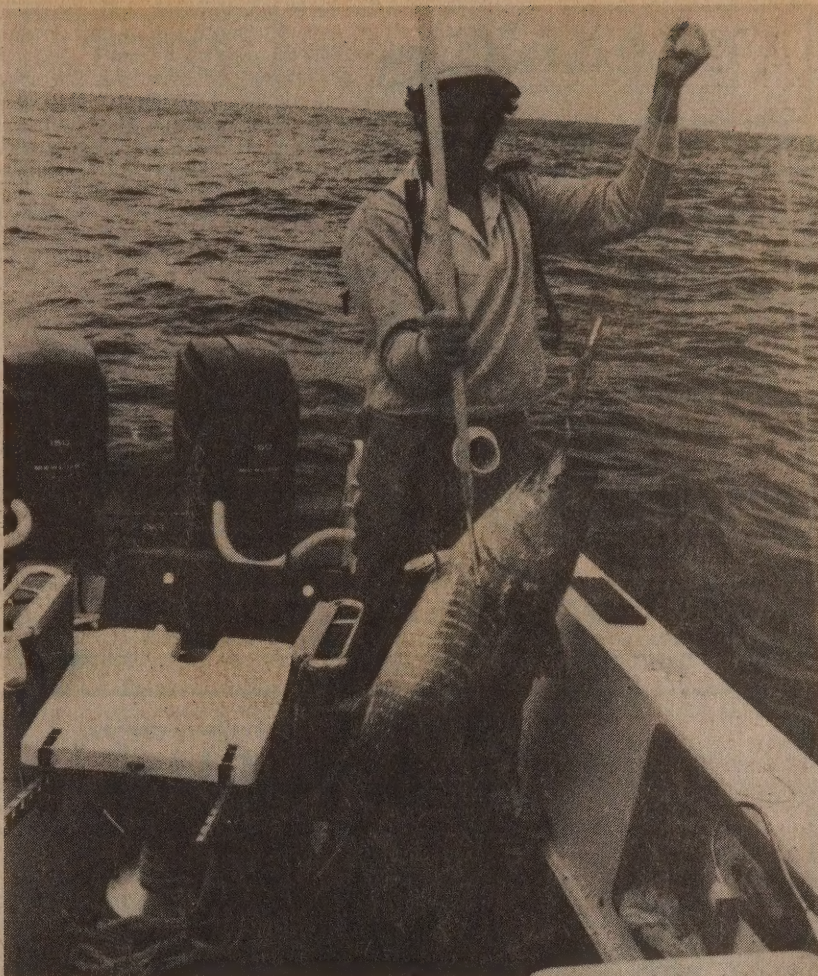
The plan was to pick up the men in the tower by helicopter, during the next lull in the storm, predicted to be at 2AM the morning of Monday, January 16th. They never made it.

By early evening, winds had increased to 50 to 70 knots and seas climbed to a towering 35 feet. According to New York Times coverage of this disaster, the final scenario of the doomed tower occurred as follows:

The USAF indicated that Captain Phelan had wanted his men evacuated as the wind and seas rose on Sunday. However, he believed he could wait until daylight on Monday for rescue helicopters from the Wasp.

Captain Phelan has remained in radio contact with a military sea transport service ship that had brought him supplies a few days earlier. The Tower Commander had been concerned about forecasts of bad weather and had asked the supply

(Continued on next page.)



Mike Clancy shows a 50 pound class yellowfin tuna trolled from atop the remains of Texas Tower No. 4.

TEXAS TOWER NO. 4

Vital Statistics

Date Installed: November, 1957

Date Sunk: January 15, 1961

Height: 186' above seabed floor, 67' minimum clearance above sea level, 90' clearance of platform deck above sea level.

Structure Width: 3-sided triangle, 187' each side

Weight: approximately 5,000 tons

Depth of Water: 186 feet

Depth Over Wreck: varies, but minimum of 60'

Lat/Lon Position: 39-48-24 N/72-40-20 W

Loran C Position: 26313.0/43267.8

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Port	Distance (Nautical Miles)	Heading (Magnetic)	
		To	From
Shinnecock Inlet	63.0	201°	021°
Moriches Inlet	59.3	189°	009°
Fire Island Inlet	57.5	163°	343°
Jones Inlet	63.2	152°	332°
Debs Inlet	70.0	147°	327°
Rockaway Inlet	74.5	141°	321°
Shark River Inlet	66.5	124°	304°
Manasquan Inlet	65.5	119°	299°
Barneget Inlet	66.3	101°	281°
Beach Haven Inlet	77.5	089°	269°
Little Egg Inlet	80.0	088°	268°

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ship to stand by.

"Things getting worse, tower shaking and beginning to break loose," Captain Phelan told the supply ship late Sunday afternoon. At 7:10 PM, he told the ship he was expecting evacuation during the next break in the storm, presumably the next morning.

At 7:25PM all hell broke loose and the Tower transmitted a "Mayday," the International signal for distress. At 7:33PM Sunday evening, Texas Tower No. 4 disappeared from the supply ship's radar screen, plunging into the turbulent, frigid Atlantic waters and taking all 28 crew members to their deaths.

Darkness and the unfavorable elements severely hampered any rescue attempts. According to a New York Times report, early Monday morning, the 16th of January, a Coast Guard official said that "a realistic view at this time must be that the men in the Tower are no longer alive!" He added that, "salvage teams are giving it everything they have on the assumption that they may still be."

One body was recovered from the water and another was sighted downwind of the Tower in a night-and-day search by 11 ships, 6 aircraft and 31 divers. The search for the 26 remaining men, regarded as hopeless by mid-morning, was galvanized into new urgency when a destroyer's sonar equipment picked up tapping noises coming from the Tower's sunken hulk. Hope flared higher when the "tin can" reported that it had exchanged signals with the tappers and that it heard what might have been a human voice.

Searchers said it was possible that some of the missing men had found a pocket of air inside the 5,000 ton structure when it went under. A diving bell and salvage equipment were sent to the scene but by late Monday afternoon, the Commanding Officer of the rescue flotilla from aboard the Wasp said there was no more than an "outside possibility" of rescuing any men from the Tower. He said that the tapping signals had become "weaker and more random" and had finally ceased about 2:30PM Monday. This was 19 hours after the Tower had collapsed and four hours after the sounds were first heard by the destroyer McCaffrey.

Attempts were made by the divers to reach the interior of the superstructure and according to a USAF spokesman, "the wreckage clearly indicated there was no time for an organized attempt to abandon the Tower."

Compounding the tragedy and loss of life of the Texas Tower incident was the sensational publicity surrounding the event. Political and public outcry demanded a scapegoat to blame for the disaster, and Col. William Banks, Commander of the Boston Air Defense Sector which had jurisdiction over the 3 Towers, was forced to undergo court-martial proceedings for dereliction of duty. The charge

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specifically stated that "despite his knowledge of the weakened structural condition of the Tower and his receipt of a severe weather forecast, Col. Banks failed to keep himself appraised of the developing weather situation; did not maintain contact with the officer in charge of the Tower and with the commander of the squadron, and failed to hold himself readily available for any action necessary in view of the developing dangerous situation of the Tower." When this proceeding was informed of a Senate sub-committee investigation report that indicated various engineers had recommended abandoning Tower No. 4 weeks before its collapse due to its structure being only 55 percent of rated strength, the fate of Col. Banks seemed sealed. However, he was eventually cleared of the negligence charge in August, 1961 by a very unusual "silent verdict," where the presiding court officers offered no objection to the defense counsel's motion that the case against Col. Banks be dropped, due to insufficient proof.

Now that we have a fairly good idea of the historical events that led up to the Texas Tower's demise, let's attempt to understand why the Tower area is one of the hottest, fish-catching spots in the New York Bight. As mentioned earlier, the mangled structural remains provide an ideal

habitat that continuously lures large game fish to this location.

The Tower's unique underwater profile acts like a beacon to the various tunas and marlin in their forays from the Hudson Canyon's vortex, a scant 12 miles to the southeast, to the northern flats in their search for food. The Tower's familiar shadow acts like a junction that funnels this traffic to and from the canyon's entrance. Add to this the rusting bones of the Rumrunner "Bacardi," four miles N/NE of the Tower's position and the Bidevind, an unknown wreck and the West Wreck about four miles to the W/NW and you can see why this area is hot stuff!

Indeed, this region produces a steady pick of albacore and yellowfin tuna, white marlin, blue marlin, out-sized mako sharks, dolphin, wahoo, occasional king-size yellowfin tuna and has been known to hold school bluefin tuna over the wrecks into mid-November.

For those skeptics who doubt that blue marlin would venture into 30 fathom water in search of a meal, I must admit that at one time I was a member of your ranks. However, coming back from a Hudson Canyon trip a few years ago, we stopped at the Texas Tower to try tolling for a few tasty yellowfin tuna for the BBQ grill. We set out a spread of lures parallel to another boat that had just

put out his baits, when one of his outrigger lines dipped down suddenly and a fish was on. The next instant, a 400 to 500 lb. blue marlin disguised as a runaway locomotive rocketed out of the water within spitting distance of our boat on its way to the Delaware shores. We pulled in the baits and watched the action from a safe distance for as long as we could, but we never found out if that lucky angler ever landed that big blue. Enough said about what you can expect to find at venerable old Tower No. 4.

Before we get into the vital statistics info, allow me to offer a word of caution. Remember, the closest lee you'll have against any wind out there is 57½ nautical miles away. Wind makes waves, and that means that just about any sustained, moderate wind that's been blowing for awhile will create at least 4 to 6 foot seas out in Tower country, even in a stable weather pattern. If you have small 21 to 26 foot outboard or I/O boat like I do, be sure to take enough fuel, leave a float plan with your marina, go out with a couple of other boats if possible, and keep an ear to the weather station for wind and barometer data.

Next week, we'll investigate one of the most frequented wrecks off of Long Island's south shore: The San Diego.

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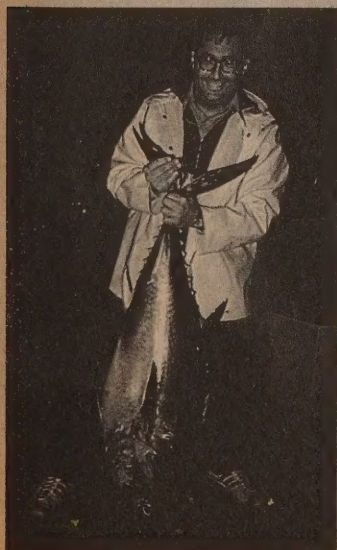
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MAJOR LEAGUE FLOUNDER

by Gerald Hahn

When it comes to quality, Gardiner's Island flatties are head and shoulders above the rest.

Spring flounder are supposed to be listless runts, thinner than a 20 cent stamp and not much larger than a post card. Perhaps this is so for bay flounder who have been hibernating in sluggish backwaters all winter long, but it is certainly not the case with sea flounder, commonly called snowshoes. Indeed, snowshoe flounder are not just large, they are as eager to do battle in the spring as their relatives, the doormat fluke, are in the summer.

Take Gardiner's Island, for example, where king-sized flounder find suitable lodgings every spring. Party boat fishermen evict them from such places as Eastern Plain Point, Tobacco Bay and southeast of the island at Promised Land. Some of these fish weigh over 3 pounds and 1½ pounders are commonly taken. Moreover, snowshow flounder, unlike ordinary flounder, favor hard bottom to mud, strong currents to trickling backwaters, and moving baits to stationary edibles. They also fight harder than fluke.

On any given day, however, one never knows how many snowshoes will turn up, and consequently, the catch often consists of mixed sized fish. Still, when you're on a boat where people are throwing back 3/4 pound fish, you know you're in the big league of flounder fishing.

A greater problem at Gardiner's is the wind. When it kicks up out of Montauk, or bucks the tide, even party boats scurry back to calmer waters. Oceanic swells are not uncommon here. Aside from the discomfort of fishing in such conditions, there seems to be an inverse ratio between the pitching of the boat and the number of snowshoes caught. More pitch, fewer fish. At such times, party boat skippers will head to such places as Cedar Beach in Peconic Bay, or the Ferry Slip or Mashomack Point on Shelter Island. When the weather calms down, they head back to the island.

Rough seas and large fish notwithstanding, party boat fishing at Gardiner's is generally performed with moderate tackle. A 6 or 7 foot bay rod matched with a light conventional or baitcasting reel such as the Penn 920 Levelwind spooled with 10 to 12 pound test is adequate. Some



A pair of snowshoes vie for pool honors aboard the Wilhelric.

people use 15 lb. test for extra security. Most days you can fish here with 2 or 3 ounces of lead, and certainly no more than 4 ounces. The water is only 10 to 20 feet deep. Some people bring spinning tackle, which is inferior to conventional tackle for baitfishing on a party boat. With conventional tackle, it is easier to release line and feel the bottom, especially when the boat is pitching, and the angler has better control when play-

ing a large fish.

Oddly, rigs for snowshoes are tied in the same manner as for smaller fish. The only difference is that most people use slightly larger Chestertown hooks—#7 or #8 instead of #10. Two of these hooks, snelled with 12 inch leaders of 30 lb. test, are tied in tandem. The Chestertown's long shank facilitates removal from a gut hooked fish, and its reversed bend is well matched to the flounder's small

mouth. However, this hook is constructed of thin wire and bends easily. Consequently, some fishermen use sproats or beaks in comparable sizes. Regardless of the hooks you select, secure them to a dropper loop on the running line about an inch or two above an end loop for the sinker. If you prefer, tie a snap swivel to the end of the running line with an improved clinch knot, and use it for the sinker and the tandem tied hooks. This way, everything stays on the bottom.

A tandem rig is certainly effective at Gardiner's, but party boat fishermen are always looking for an advantage. With flounder, the advantage usually comes in yellow. For example, some people use hooks mounted with a plastic corn kernel, which slides on the snelled leader. Other people favor Mr. Twister's 1/2 inch soft plastic tail, which flutters like a yellow pennant. The tail is not threaded on the hook; it is impaled solely through the "head," and then pushed up the shank. This leaves room for a natural bait below. Hooks dressed with natural or synthetic yellow hair are also effective. Finally, many people paint the sinker yellow, as well, for this color is highly visible on the bottom and resembles much of the food flounder eat.

Perhaps the yellowest food around is the bank mussel, the mainstay of the party boat fleet at Gardiner's. Some boats also stock skimmer clams. Experienced fishermen bring along a supply of sandworms, as well.

Nor do veteran fishermen wait for the mate to shuck mussels. During the trip to the fishing grounds on a cold spring day, they don waterproof gloves and set to the task themselves. Selecting the largest ribbed mussels from the bushel, they deftly cleave the bivalves with a clam knife. The yellow meat is stripped from beneath the hard membrane. Though difficult to secure firmly on a hook, mussels are the most consistent snowshoe catchers in the spring. They can be toughened somewhat, by drying in the sun. The hard tongue is impaled several times on the hook and pushed up the shank, then the soft meat is wrapped around the lower part of the shank, and the firm membrane impaled below. The result is a ball of fluorescent yellow meat.

Snowshoes seem ambivalent about sandworms. One week, they slurp them up like thick shakes; the next week they won't touch them. On one trip here, I had to switch back and forth between sandworms and mussels. The fish couldn't make up their minds. Then it dawned on me to try both on the same hook. I skewered a gob of mussel between two pieces of sandworm and the combination was deadly, at least that day. Incidentally, when using a worm by itself, be generous.

Unlike most flounder fishing, which is performed at anchor with a good dose of chum, party boats drift for Gardiner's snowshoes, just as they

will later on for doormat fluke. Most people take a position at the stern, or on that side of the boat where lines will move out. Actually, the other side may be better, since flounder swim upcurrent in short spurts to snatch tidbits dribbling down-current. The problem is, however, that lines heading under the boat may strike the hull and rise out of the flounder's feeding zone.

No matter which side you fish, it is essential that the rig remains on the bottom. A sensitive rod tip helps detect the bottom and an educated finger on the line in front of the spool picks up the first sign of a nibble. Holding the rod still enables the fish to make up its mind, a difficult decision for a flatfish on the move. Then a short lift of the rod sets the hook. Sea flounder are aggressive fish, and on moderate tackle they are surprisingly strong. Some hammer away like sea bass; others use their pancake shaped torsos like the suction cups on the roof rack of a car, and anglers have a difficult time prying them free. The big ones, of course, should be netted by the mate.

As with most fish, snowshoes are active around the change of tide. Smaller fish are taken throughout the day. The height of the spring run at Gardiner's Island is between mid-April and the end of May. Warm clothes are recommended at this time of year. On a productive day, a sharp fisherman can put away over 30 flounder weighing 1 to 3 pounds. On a good day, figure that 25 to 50 percent of these fish will be snowshoes.

Snowshoes make thick fillets, and there is no need to cut them into four pieces. I watched the mate on one party boat use the following method:

1. Make a diagonal incision in the fish, belly side up, from the top of the head to the vent.
2. Insert the knife at the incision at the top of the head, with the cutting edge of the blade facing the dorsal fins (outward).
3. Run the blade to the tail.
4. Slice the fillet to the backbone, from head to tail, and then run the blade over the backbone from tail to head.
5. Continue slicing the meat to the outer fins on the bottom edge of the fish and remove the fillet.
6. Repeat on the other side.

Snowshoes have a big reputation at Gardiner's Island, and party boats travel from various ports to catch them. On the North Fork, there are several boats at Greenport and on the South Fork at Sag Harbor and Shinnecock. Some days, boats come from Montauk, as well as from Connecticut.

Fishermen may boast about spectacular catches of over 100 bay flounder in a day, but as the saying goes, "Where's the beef?" A snowshoe at Gardiner's is much larger than an ordinary spring flounder, both in length and thickness. No puny stamps here, these fish are mailed parcel post.

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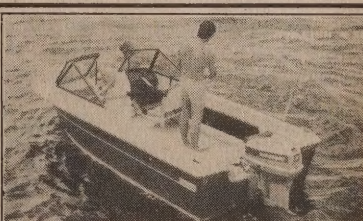
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DELAWARE RIVER CANOE TRIPS

by Gary Caputi

Some of my fondest memories of good times gone by and of days spent with friends have one thing in common. They were times during summer recess from college and just long weekends after college was over and I was beginning my stint in the work force. They include groups of friends as small as one and as large as a dozen. The common ground these memories all share is the Delaware River and canoes.

In this area of the country with its fast pace and its endless list of things to do, we often lose sight of the fact that there are so many beautiful areas within just a couple hours drive from the New York and Philadelphia metropolitan areas. One of the prettiest and most exhilarating is the upper stretch of the Delaware River. The area I am referring to is located above the Delaware Water Gap and the best canoeing is located from Port Jervis, New York, north to Hancock.

This stretch of the river is bordered by small towns, farms, woods and cliffs. The scenery brings thousands of sightseers from all over the northeast by car to drive the roads and small two lane highways that parallel the river along some of its banks. Unfortunately for them, they are missing the best the river has to offer in scenery by staying in their cars and just driving the shoreline. The real nature show must be seen from the river itself and the best mode of transportation for that is the canoe.

The canoe and the Delaware River go together like mom and apple pie. This blending of the river and canoe goes back long before Revolutionary War times to when the local Indian tribes were plying the waters of the Delaware with canoes made of birch bark. The view from the river is breathtaking in places and the enjoyment of shooting the rapids in spring or just the leisurely paddling and drifting downstream while casting for one of the many species of game fish the river has to offer are equally pleasing. It is an experience that can be enjoyed time and again by friends, lovers, adults and kids alike. I have a friend who rediscovered his relationship with his eldest son on the Delaware River on a weekend canoe trip. A relationship they both thought had faded. The river has that kind of magic. A magic that is hard to find in our fast paced world. It was a weekend of sharing nature and the wonderful sounds of the river that



Canoeing on the Delaware is a team effort with each person carrying their own weight.

neither of them will ever forget.

My first experience with the Delaware River was responding to the excitement of white water canoeing. The river, when swollen with the spring rains and the runoff of the melting winter snows, makes for quite a challenge to both beginner and experienced canoeists alike. The river can swell to over ten feet higher than its normal docile state early in the year. During this time, there are rapids that can equal some of the best the western rivers have to offer. The rapids at Skinners Falls is the most difficult the Eastern United States has to offer. Many other rapids of smaller proportions abound in the upper river. The variety of rapids in the spring can make for a real heart-pounding trip or one with just enough thrills to have fun with, but not enough to give you palpitations. It's all in what you want to experience and how you set up your trip.

Since my greatest love in the outdoors is fishing, whenever I set up a trip anywhere, fishing becomes a prime consideration. The Delaware has a wide variety of species available to the angler with some species that just aren't available anywhere else in this area of the country. You say you like to fish for trout, be it the delicate fly fisherman's wand you use or the

common garden hackle approach, the Delaware offers rainbows, browns, brookies and the hybrid golden trout. Trout aren't your cup of tea. Well, the Delaware has some of the finest stream smallmouth bass fishing in the northeast. These hard-fighting brown bass can be taken on a fly rod, spinners, spoons, plugs or bait. One of the best baits available is the Hellgramite, which smallmouths show a decided preference for and which abound in the river. Just turn some rocks and you'll find them. When you bait with these ugly insects it's hard to make a cast without catching a bass.

You would rather try for something more exotic. The Delaware has you covered. It is about the only place around that has muskies for the serious angler to chase. The river has been stocked for many years with a hybrid species of musky designated as the "Tiger Musky" because of the fish's distinctive stripes. These grow to well over 20 lbs. and offer quite a challenge on any tackle.

Now add to that menu the Atlantic shad. This fish, often called the "poor man's Atlantic salmon," is a fighter second to none. In the spring, they make their annual spawning run from the ocean upriver and they literally fill the river with their presence. On light

spinning tackle, you would be hard pressed to find a more worthy adversary. They run up to 10 lbs. and after you hook your first one, you'll know how they got their reputation. The spring run usually starts in April and goes on into May. Catching them from a canoe adds to the fun and also the catch. The canoe gives the angler more mobility than the shore-based fisherman and makes getting at some of the bigger pools holding fish much simpler.

Now that this is sounding like an awful lot of fun, you might be thinking, "but I don't have a canoe." No Problem! There are several very well run canoe rental and campground operations that specialize in full package canoe trips on the upper Delaware. All you need is your fishing tackle and camping equipment, if you decide to make it a more than one day trip. Reservations are also recommended. Both outfits listed are very professionally run, offer a full range of river trips and services with runs that can last an afternoon or go on for three days. You can cover a small stretch of the river or run a full 70 miles of water from Hancock to Port Jervis. You pick how much time you want to spend, how much river you want to cover and the people are knowledgeable enough to set up your trip to offer you the most fun. These outfits also have campgrounds along the river for your overnight stays and you can even arrange meals with them if you're not into roughing it.

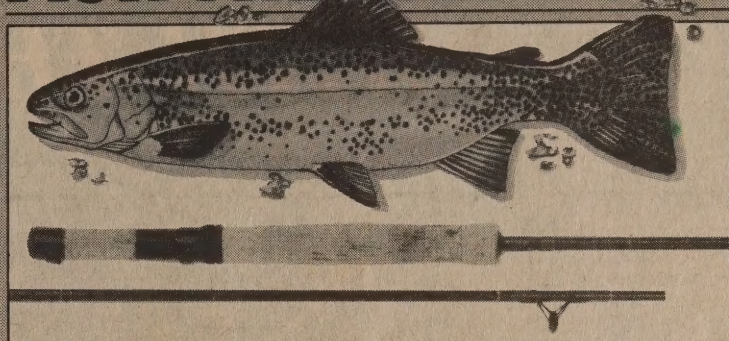
The best way to handle setting up a Delaware River canoe trip is to start by calling for a brochure. This will include a map of the river with a breakdown of the trips available, all the costs and other pertinent information. Then review your time available and just what you want to do with that time. If you want to spend more time fishing than paddling on a week-end trip, you don't want to plan on covering a lot of distance during your trip. Let the people at the rental companies know just what you want to do and they will help you set up the trip to give you the most of what you want. They can suggest sections of the river that will afford the best fishing or the best rapids, if white water is the lure that has you interested. They can even suggest which sections will give you the best scenery and bird-watching.

Of all the weekend trips you have ever taken, rest assured that your canoe trip on the Delaware River will rank high on the list as one of the most fun weekends you will ever experience. For being in the out of doors, on the water, and just enjoying nature, it is an awful lot of fun for a little bit of money.

Bob and Rick Lander's **Delaware River Canoe Trips**, R.D. 2, Box 376, Narrowsburg, New York 12764, (914) 252-3925.

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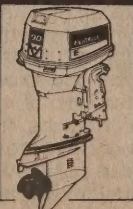
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SURF FISHING WITH THE KIDS

by Carl Buxbaum

Surf nuts seem compelled to talk about their sport. Fortunately, some victims of their enthusiasm are contaged and don't mind. Others politely humor them, promising to try the surf at some vague, future time. "Someday, maybe, I'll go along with you." Only my wife feels free to tell me, "Shut up—enough about fishing." But kids are impressionable. They really listen to the "fish stories" and want to catch a big one, too. Somehow, they don't hear the parts about fishless trips, chilling winds, and hours of casting. They expect to go to the beach and catch fish. If it doesn't work that way, they get discouraged, think you're crazy or, worse yet, lose confidence in themselves. So, before you take your kids along, make some judgments about what they're ready for; where, when, and how they might succeed, and be prepared for the unexpected.

A couple of Thanksgivings back, we hosted the family dinner. The house was filled with grandparents, parents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, sons and daughters. A wonderfully warm, sentimental, and noisy experience; until everyone was gone, that is, and my wife and I were stuck with the cleanup detail. The event highlighted how much of a surf fishing family we had become. Only my father-in-law and I had gone completely bonkers, but everyone else was involved with the sport to one degree or another. Actually, at age 15 now, one of my boys also seems a bit nuts.

The meal started with an appetizer of striped bass. Brought to the table

whole, it was poached and served cold with my wife's garlic laced, green mayonnaise sauce. In a few minutes, it looked as if the poor beast ran the gauntlet through a school of piranhas. I was under strict orders to catch a 10 pounder that fall. Smaller ones wouldn't be enough for our gang. Larger ones could only be poached in the big roasting pan, which, on Thanksgiving, is occupied by the bird. Later, my sons defended the family honor by showing pictures of the bigger ones beached during the season. Then, the inevitable occurred. One of the grandparents said something like, "How much the kids have grown!" Out came the family photo albums, recording years of growth. In the end, we were convinced our children have a strange condition. Fish seem to grow out of their fingertips. At ages 3 and 4 they're holding up snappers on a ferry dock at Fire Island. A year later, cod and flounder are stuck to their hands on a party boat in Provincetown. The boys are bigger and so are the fish. Back to the surf, they're holding up small sand sharks, taken from a jetty in Wellfleet harbor, on a rainy afternoon. At last, 5 to 6 lb. bluefish are being dangled by the tails at Jones Beach, when the boys were 8 and 9 years old. The weakfish and stripers didn't appear on their hands until more recently—when they were ready to fish at night.

Well, while everyone was reminiscing, my father-in-law made some remark that triggered uncontrollable laughter. It was about the things you learn introducing kids to surfcasting.

We started making up a set of "natural laws" about it. First, kids always have to go to the bathroom when fish crash the beach. Second, there is no better way to get knot tying practice than to take youngsters fishing. Third, any line, on any reel, under any conditions can be hopelessly tangled. Fourth, with enough practice, almost any tangle can be undone. Fifth, even the best surf reels can be filled with sand and freeze up. Sixth is the worst cut of all. There is no gratitude. When a youngster is frustrated because he can't reach the fish with his casts, and a loving parent hooks up, handing the rod over for the child to enjoy fighting the fish, how does it end? With a complaint: "Yeah, but I didn't **really** catch it." Any parent knows you can't win 'em all. That's part of the job.

Though we went on and on with our nasty little "natural laws," we realized, too, how much the experience brought us all together. Yes, the feelings were mixed. But it was great fun in balance, and by the age of 12 or so, a son or daughter can become a competent, pleasant fishing buddy. The trick is to avoid pitting your kids against challenges they can't handle, to recognize when they are ready for more and, above all, to avoid frustrating and boring them so, that they'll never willingly join you in the suds again.

Each kid is different. Some are more eager, some more patient, some stronger, some easily distracted, and so on. There is no right age to start a kid in the surf. It depends on the kid. I my experience, with two sons, it

seems wise to stick with short stints, at the peak of the season, seeking snappers or flounder from piers until at least the age of 7 or 8. Earlier attempts at casting only made them feel incompetent; but they could easily drop a baited hook from a pier, and snappers particularly entertained them. Others may disagree. For example, I don't remember at exactly what age big Jim Sheridan started his boy Jimmy in the suds. But Jim does remember his daughter, Patti, pleading for her own pair of waders when she was very young. Now, they're a regular team on the beach. They catch fish, too. The Bragan family—father, mother, son—each seem to wind up in the surf reports with notable striped catches every fall. When the youngest Bragan, now 18, started, is not recalled exactly. But he was in a wet suit by 13. Mike Campanelli mentioned that he was going to try starting his 6½ year old boy in the surf last season. I'm not sure how it turned out. But if the kid is anything like the old man, he's a natural, and Mike's an excellent teacher. I learned more about fishing from rock piles the night I first met him under the Montauk light than ever before or after. In our culture, girls seem to have been trained to be more patient and cooperative than boys. Perhaps an interested daughter can start early.

If you want to make an early attempt, pick a beach where a youngster can have fun building sand castles, trailing horseshoe crabs, swimming, or be otherwise entertained, when the mood inevitably shifts away from fishing. Take some beach toys along.

The acid test for expecting children to succeed in the surf seems to be when they can get off a modest cast with a fast-tipped, medium action, 8 foot rod and a light skirted spool reel, loaded with about 200 yards of 12 pound line. The fast tip will help throw the lure or bait, even when there isn't much muscle in the cast. The skirted spool is less likely to foul the line or jam with sand in inexperienced hands, and it doesn't require any special positioning of the spool before casting. This sort of outfit is light, easy to handle, has a fair chance of reaching feeding fish, and magnifies the adventure with the quarry on which you should be focussed: 2 to 3 pound bluefish.

Why small blues? Because they are abundant, relatively easy to hook, and prowl the beaches during the summer and early fall. Don't expect a kid to put up with icy cold hands and the shivers just to catch fish in November. Any shots to be taken at big fall choppers are best reserved for comfortable weather and calm seas until the age of 10 or 12, when a longer rod, set up to throw 2 or 3 ounce tins and poppers, can be handled. At that point, you can follow the lead of your son or daughter—to a point. Keep an eye on their level of enthusiasm and interest in trekking the beaches. If they've caught the

bug, you'll be pushed to take them on an after-dark expedition. The first couple of trips will be disasters, and you'll understand the "natural laws." Maybe you'll add a few to the list. So, better start at sunset and give the novice a chance to get off a few decent casts before the inevitable tackle fouling episodes take hold.

The beginning tackle selection suggested makes the choice of beach important. Stick with relatively quiet areas on the north shore or the south shore back bays and inlets. My boys had their best early local experiences at Jones Inlet and along Gin Beach, where they could stand firmly on sand and face calm waters. The open ocean beaches, more often than not, require long casts. A youngster gets really frustrated by not being able to reach breaking choppers, when everyone else has a fish on. Rest assured, the kid will then put a damper on your enjoyment, too.

Sections of beach crowded with other casters should be avoided. First, children will certainly make mistakes, and the tolerance of even the most understanding comrade in the surf is stretched thin by the fifth time your eager little partner crosses a bunch of other lines. Second, youngsters tend to drift around while you're busy casting. You don't want them walking behind a line of fishermen hurling hefty tins and poppers at maximum power. The thing that bothers me most is that many adult casters turn childish and selfish during a blitz. You may not want your kid exposed to examples of the worst in adult behavior. I spend lots of time under the light at Montauk, and a few years ago Marc and Matt, my boys, were leaning on me to give them a shot at it. It was an early September afternoon. The seas were calm, and we arrived early in the rising tide. Only a couple of other fishermen were there. I perched each boy on a nice, big, flat rock for safe and easy casting. They had grown into 10 foot sticks by then. It was a mistake. As soon as the first bluefish was hooked, the rocks were jammed with other casters. Matt got his popper caught in the rocks and climbed down to free it. But returning to his casting position, he found that a supposedly mature man, in his 40s, had claimed the spot and refused to yield. Sportsmanship, right? Well, maybe I was wrong to have brought the boys. In any event, they vividly remember the incident, years later, and still find it disturbing.

Don't risk messing up a good thing. Stay out of crowds, judge your kids readiness, pick the right tackle, the right spots, only go out when the fish are in, and **be patient**. Five minutes after you remind a youngster to keep a reel free of sand, he's likely to walk along towing his outfit by the rod tip—the reel dragging behind. In another few minutes he'll lay the outfit down in the sand signalling the end of his fishing. Have a sense of humor, and the kid will love the day anyway. So will you.

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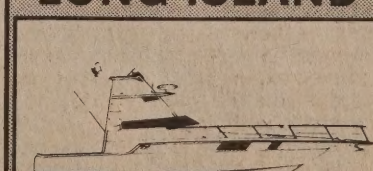


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TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME

by Dick Mermon

Shrimp chumming for weaks has withstood the test of time and remains one of the most productive methods for taking these inshore favorites.

The State Channel at Wanser's Cut was as flat as glass. The ripples created by our double anchored boat and the exposed grass banks were the only clue to the still running current.

"She's pushin' too strong yet to shrimp," commented Ol' George. "Give 'eh another half hour and we'll get a couple of those big yellowfin tiderunners" he added with a grin, then puffed a few times on the cigar which protruded from the corner of his mouth.

Ol' George, as he is referred to by most of his freinds and fellow baymen, is in reality George Combs Sr. In his aging lifetime, he has observed two generations of weakfish cycles, from Peconic Bay to Sheepshead Bay to Beachaven, New Jersey.

"There's still some good size weaks around," he stated, "but not like they were during the 1980 season. That was the peak year for those big tide-runners," he announced boldly, as his aging fingers began rigging an antique split bamboo weakfish rod that was fashionable during the 1930s.

"The gill netters really got to them big spring spawners, but it was about

their time to go into a slump cycle. Still, the netters caused them to drop off earlier than they should have" George grumbled, never raising his eyes from his rigging procedure. Then suddenly, he turned and belted out, "there's plenty of shrimp in this bay and in the other areas and that should hold a few of them fish for now, but they got ta leave 'em be so we can get some little weaks around again."

With that comment we ended the conversation and he began chumming with the live shrimp. His estimation of a slacking tide was right on schedule and thus began the education of shrimping for weakfish. The technique was and remains one of the finest schemes to catch northern sea trout with light tackle. The old-timers, the bay people, those who remember the bygone days still employ shrimp chum. Its activity was curtailed probably by the influence of the soft plastic shrimp tail or worm, along with the effort involved in gathering sufficient shrimp to fish and chum with. However, a natural bait is still the most desirable enticement, but

the method and where to apply it, is a more exact reason why anglers have not investigated, or mastered the technique.

Grass and harbor shrimp (sand shrimp) enter the bays (especially the south shore) as early as the end of January. But, due to lack of fishing activity, anglers do not realize this fact and the shrimp go unobserved. As the weather moderates and flounder appear, along with the fishermen, shrimp become noticeable in the water or are discovered within the fish's stomach. The primary migration period of these shrimp begins near the middle of April and peaks about the full moon of May; coincidentally, the same period of time weakfish arrive on the scene. Once inside the bay, swift tidal currents distribute the tiny crustacean, making them easy prey for both fish and birds. Quickly, they seek protection along the channel ledges, eel grass flats, drainage ditches, mosquito troughs, back-bay coves and bulkheads. Rarely will they descend into deeper water than four feet at this time, for it is their spawning period.



A single shrimp impaled on a light wire #1 or 1/0 hook permits a natural presentation.

Once water temperatures reach above their tolerance, these mini-shrimp migrate into deep holes and by August, begin their annual departure.

There are two systems by which an angler can gather shrimp. One is with the use of a triangular shaped, hand-held scoop net that is pushed along bottom. The other, with a rectangular framed drag-net which is towed in back of a boat. By far, the latter scheme is the easiest and fastest way to gather these tiny morsels.

The "scoop-net" is constructed of two, 5 foot length dowls or broomstick handles fastened together at the top, then spread apart at the bottom, forming an inverted "V." A tiny meshed nylon netting is attached to these sticks, open in front and elongated at the rear, forming a pouch. Once secured, the scoop net is held at the cross fastened sticks and pushed along the bottom. The shrimp laying motionless on the bottom, are then shoveled into the net and collected in the rear pouch.

The "tow-net," is constructed from 3/4 inch galvanized pipe, 36 inches wide and 15 inches high. A net, similar in mesh to the scoop net is affixed to the frame and also maintains a rear gathering pouch. However, this shrimp collecting contraption is dragged behind a boat (at least ten feet in the rear) in shallow water and must scrape bottom continuously in order for it to be effective. Entering "skinny water" with a boat may cause some concern, but it must be done. Therefore, extreme caution is advised to be on the lookout for sharp objects and horseshoe crabs, which can destroy the net or damage your prop.

Shrimp can be maintained alive for several days, providing they are maintained in a large floating cart in an area with sufficient "contamination-free" moving water. Another means of maintaining shrimp in a live or fresh state is to place them in alternating layers of damp newspapers in your refrigerator. I prefer to use moistened saw dust and mix the shrimp in with the tiny chips in the refrigerator. When chumming, I toss out sawdust and all.

Should you feel that gathering shrimp and trying to maintain them is too bothersome, Ol' George and his son, George Combs Jr. still supply fishermen (as they have been doing for years) with these prime baits. Arrangements can be made for a supply of live or fresh frozen shrimp by calling (516) 264-3525.

As with all saltwater fishing techniques, there are tidal conditions which become primary and secondary periods for chumming. The optimum time is usually the last hour of a flood or ebbing tide. The secondary, is the first hour of a tidal change from outgoing to incoming and full flood to the first ebb. During such periods, chummed shrimp are carried slowly outward and in their live state, swim for the bottom for protection. Small

(Continued on next page.)



Despite a gullet full of shrimp, this weak still took a baited hook.



Barry Kanvay nets a shrimp caught weak for George Combs, Jr.

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handfuls are distributed at first. When sign of a swirling fish is observed, or a strike is encountered, chumming decreases to a mere one or two at a time, just to keep the fish in the chummed area and interested.

Shrimping weakfish is a light tackle fisherman's dream. A short, lightweight rod, and line to match, offers not only enjoyment, but prevents the fish, with their frail mouth tissue from tearing away easily. For this particular reason, Ol' George remains true to his special weakfish rod and reel of years past. In those lost days of the 30s, anglers were known to utilize cotton sewing thread as fishing line, the lightest weight possible, and wager large sums of money for the heaviest weakfish caught. These wealthy sportsmen were members of an exclusive organization called the "Cotton Club."

In this chumming technique, sea trout have a tendency to establish themselves a certain distance from the boat. Hence, once a single fish is hooked up, the angler must remember the distance the bait was placed when the strike came. This is the reason for using short rods. Line is stripped off and counted, from the reel to the rod's tip. This is how the distance is maintained as to where the fish are located.

As for hook style, most often a Mustad Viking, lightweight wire hook is best in size #1, or 1/0. The thin, almost weightless wire permits a bait to drift unpretentiously. One or two shrimp, depending upon their size, are impaled onto the hook head first. The shrimp are placed in such a way so the tail bends naturally around the hook's curve. Should there be a second shrimp required, it is merely to conceal the point.

The program of shrimping requires somewhat of a quiet location where boat traffic is subdued. One area that has been productive in the past are the grass and mud banks along the south shore of the State Channel, between Amityville and the Wantagh Bridge. The latter part of an outgoing tide seems to be favored due to the drains and ditches which empty into the channel. The boat should be up-current from one of these outflows so the chum works into its eddy. Weakfish tend to lay just off the channel ledge, ambushing the shrimp as they are carried along by the draining current. One excellent location is at the third Wantagh bridge itself, which has always been a favorite shrimping location in the past and remains to this day. Here, it is basically an incoming tide which is fished.

Shrimping is an art that can offer great satisfaction. It is one system that has not changed from that bygone era and these tiny tidbits can be applied towards other marine species also. Sand and grass shrimp are the spring weak's primary source of food. When other techniques fail, it is time to turn to this time proven natural bait.

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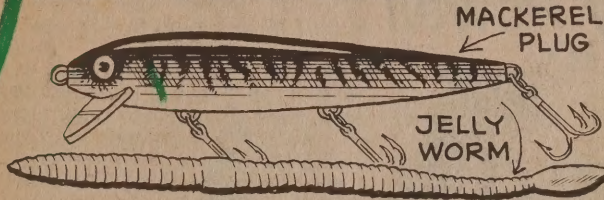
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FISHERMAN TIPS

BY FRED
GUARDINEER

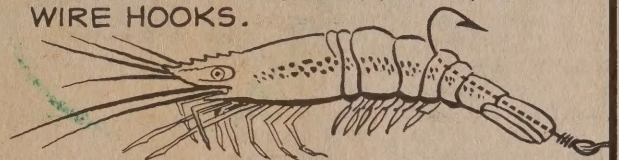
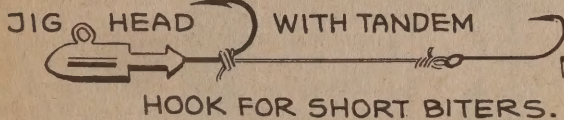
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A GOOD WEAKFISH BAIT IS A DRIFTING SANDWORM LOOKING NATURAL WITH PLENTY OF MOVEMENT. WORMS ALSO CATCH LATE FLOUNDERS, EARLY FLUKE AND ROAMING SEA BASS AND BLACKFISH MAKING THEIR SPRING RUN.



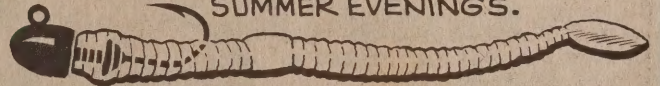
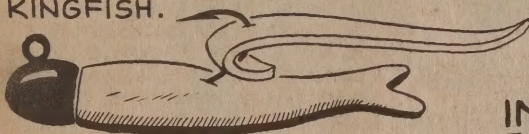
MANY FISHERMEN SIMPLY ATTACH THE JELLY WORMS TO THE LEAD HEADS OF OLD SALTY DOGS....REMEMBER THEM?

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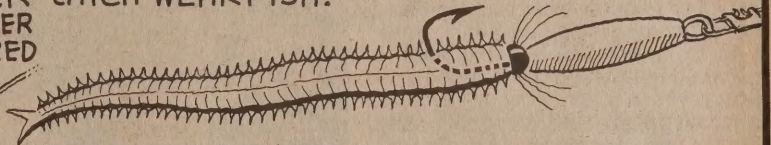
SALTY DOG JIGS SWEETENED WITH SQUID STRIPS ARE STILL DEADLY ON WEAKFISH AND ALSO PICK UP FLUKE, SEA BASS AND KINGFISH.

A HOT ITEM FOR ME WAS A BROWN PLASTIC NIGHT-CRAWLER ON A SALTY DOG JIG HEAD. IT KILLED BAY BLUES AND WEAKS WHEN CAST ON QUIET SUMMER EVENINGS.



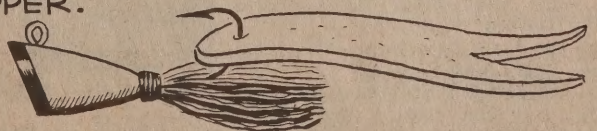
ALL THE ABOVE FISH, INCLUDING WEAKS, WILL COME INTO THE SLICK OF A FROZEN CAN OF MOSS BUNKER CHUM SUNK UNDER YOUR ANCHORED BOAT. CAST WELL BACK OF THE BOAT.

IN DEEPER WATER OFFSHORE, LIKE 40 FT. JIGGING A SANDWORM ON A SMALL WEAK-FISH DIAMOND JIG WILL CATCH WEAKFISH.

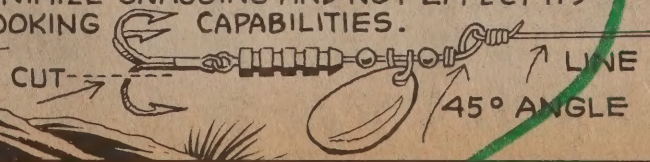
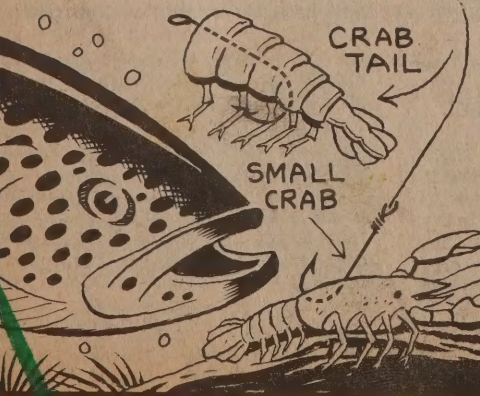


SMALL INCH LONG CRAWFISH ARE AN EXCELLENT BAIT FOR TROUT. IF YOU CAN'T FIND SMALL CRABS USE ONLY THE TAILS OF LARGER ONES. FISH ON THE BOTTOM.

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SPINNER BAITS ARE EFFECTIVE ON GAME-FISH IF THEY DON'T TWIST THE LINE. TO REDUCE TWISTING, TURN UP THE EYE ABOUT 45°. MAKE SURE 2 HOOKS OF THE TREBLE ARE IN THE "UP" POSITION. SNIPPING OFF THE "DOWN" HOOK WILL MINIMIZE SNAGGING AND NOT EFFECT ITS HOOKING CAPABILITIES.



MID SOUND MACKEREL

by Wally Powell

My boat, a 24 foot Cobia, called the "Reel Affair," comes out of hibernation usually by the last week in April. One of the luxuries of being a school teacher, is having this week off and I devote the week to getting it ready for the new season.

Once the boat is dropped in, I spent a few weeks sinker bouncing for those tasty flounder in the shoreline waters from the Branford River to points west, down to the Housatonic River in Stratford, CT. The past couple of seasons the flounder fishing hasn't been spectacular but it has put a few meals in the freezer.

I consider the real start of the new fishing season for me, is when those speedy little battlers arrive in mid-Long Island Sound, hopefully en masse. The species I am referring to are mackerel. For my regular crew and I, a good day of mackin', signals the start of the reason season and it is these days we really look forward to with great anticipation.

Before going any further, I'd like to reflect back on the 1984 season for a few lines. Last year it was my observation that the sand eel population was not in heavy residence in the mid-Sound area. We fish out of the Branford River to areas west such as Penfield Light and Middleground Light on the Connecticut side of the Sound. On the Long Island side we fish from Port Jefferson (Can II) to points east to Horton's Point near Mattituck Inlet (Can 3) and anywhere in-between. This leaves an awful lot of territory to be fished. Our mackerel season last year was not a great one, nor was trolling for bluefish. Chunk fishing with mackerel for blues was fantastic a couple of miles off the Branford Beacon, but I prefer trolling. Weakfish were practically non-existent during daytime hours. We did do a job on the fluke population with live killies and squid strips in the Mattituck-Horton Point areas, but you couldn't buy sand eels on either side of the sound at most of the local bait shops during prime time flukin' days. Now before going off on a tangent any further, a heavy abundance of sand eels this season should result in more fish in the box as the season goes on and hopefully a successful mackerel run.

Mackerel usually arrive in this neck of the Sound usually during the second week of May and hang around for 3 to 4 weeks depending on weather and water conditions. Mackerel are basically cold water fish, so once regular temps and water temps begin to rise, the mackerel schools split!



Once you locate a school of macks, triple-headers are not uncommon.

Last year's log indicates our first mackerel caught were on May 12th and last ones caught on June 9th.

While fishing for mackerel, it is best to use light gear for more sport. We use light spinning outfits for the not too experienced angler and we use our fluke poles equipped with the conventional reels, such as Penn Jigmasters and Daiwa Magforce reels. All the reels for Sound fishing as well as mackerel, are spooled with 20 lb. mono. The rigs we use are home-made, but for people who are not so energetic, you can purchase mackerel trees or Scotty rigs in any local bait

and tackle shop at very reasonable prices. Mackerel trees usually have 3 red tubes and Scotty rigs have 4 different colored tubes and both are equipped with 2/0 sized hooks. Attached to these multiple hook rigs is either a 2 oz. Bridgeport Diamond jig or 2 oz. slab jigs. These setups will help you get your entire setup down to the desired depth when in pursuit of mackere.

It is here I'd like to mention, you might try retying these rigs with 20 lb. mono when you have some spare time (cabin fever season) because when you are into a school of

mackerel, they do wreak some damage on these store bought rigs and that is why I make my own. Also you might try removing the treble hooks on your jigs and replacing them with the appropriate size single hook. Single hooks enable easy hook removal with a minimum amount of surgery. It also enables you to release fish after you have caught your quota and they should have a good shot at survival.

The best technique for putting a fishbox full of mackerel on board is by drifting and jigging. There are several methods of jigging and squidding; the choice is yours. Once you have located a school of macks, you won't need a whole lot of expertise on jigging tactics to nail these fast swimming battlers.

Perhaps the most productive way of jigging and the easiest, is to lower your jig to your desired depth or estimated desired depth if you don't have a fish recorder, and lift your rod tip up 3 to 4 feet towards the sky and then lower the tip towards the water's surface. This method lifts your rig and jig so that when it is lowered, your jig will flutter down kind of like a feather would, back and forth. This motion imitates a wounded baitfish and is hopefully perceived by your prey as such. Now once you have nailed a mack or two, don't just crank as fast as you can to get them to the surface. Leave the rig down and continue rod lifts and you will probably ensure yourself additional hook-ups. This technique is known as "sandbaggin'" on my boat, because we usually have a pool for the first full rig of macks taken aboard.

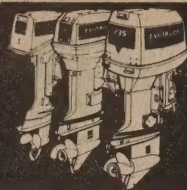
If you're having trouble hooking up and locating mackerel schools, you can try trolling. Just drop your rigs over the stern and do a slow troll. You might try putting a heavier jig, say 4 oz., to achieve a little more depth while trolling. This method will produce and perhaps get you onto a school of macks, but most of your hook-ups will be just single fish and 9 out of 10 fish will be nailed on the jig.

One last important method to add to your mackerel arsenal is the use of a chum slick. With your first macks, let them dance around on the deck for awhile or in your fishbox. Then douse them with 3 or 4 or 5 gallon buckets of water and let this mixture of blood, scales and water drain into your bilge and then pump it out. This mixture creates an excellent slick and it will hold the mackerel around your boat. It does work and it will increase your catch.

So in closing, get out there and try some mackerel fishing. It's exciting, the action is unbeatable. If you've never pursued these speedy gamesters, you're missing some fine angling. I'd also like to point out that fresh caught mackerel makes for fine eating. The stories you've heard about them being real oily and good for nothing but bait is not the case. Proper icing will ensure fine table fare.

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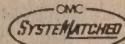
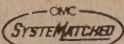


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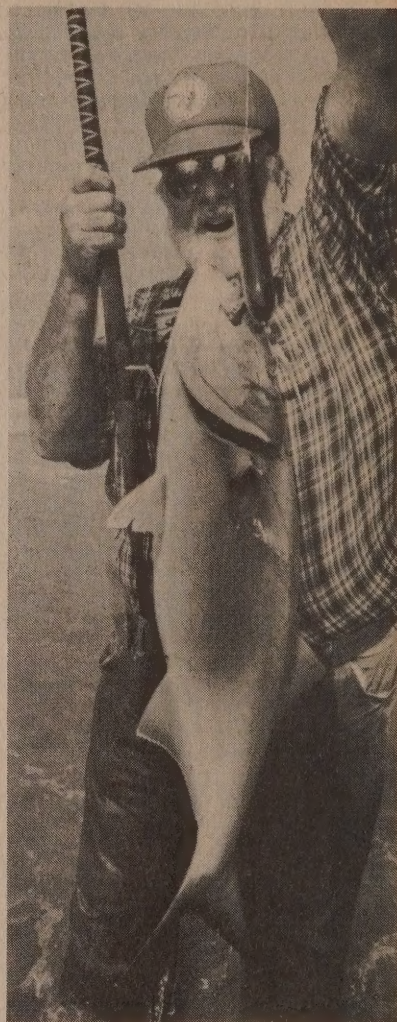
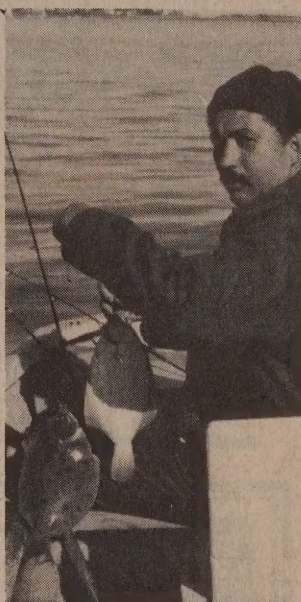
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FIRE ISLAND INLET'S BLACK TREASURE

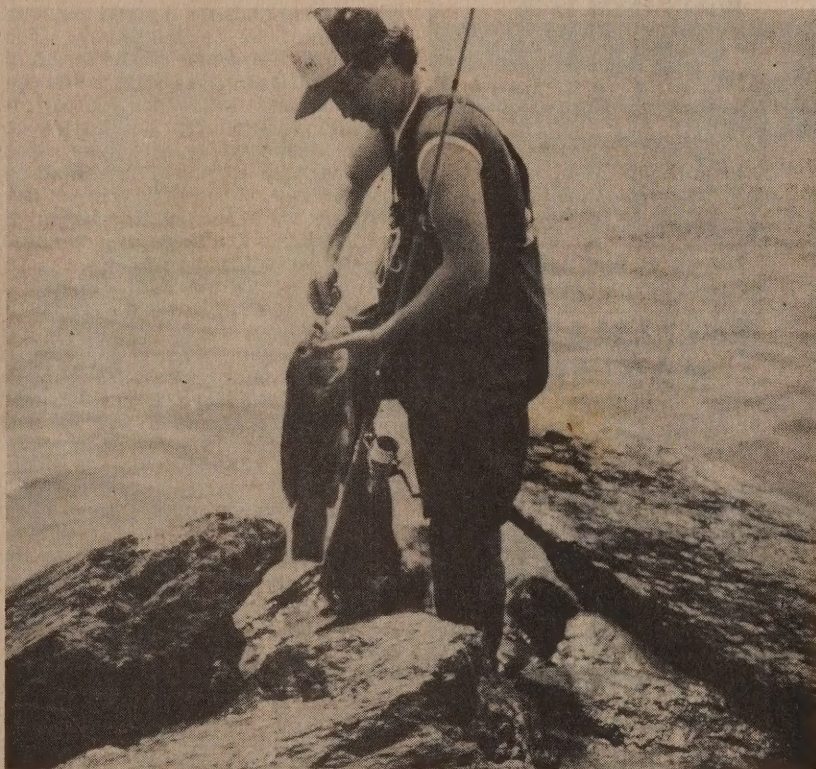
by Tom Schlichter

**Often overlooked, tautog provide good
spring action for those who seek them out.**

The cool, damp winds of a nasty early May morning chilled me to the bone as I disengaged my reel and lowered a pair of red-dyed clams on a two-hook flounder rig 10 feet to the bottom. My father, brother, and myself were anchored in that area of Fire Island Inlet known as the "Sore Thumb Pocket." It wasn't raining yet, but it might just as well have been as the air was so heavy with moisture that it caused beads of water to condense on my flimsy red windbreaker and work their way inside to those few exposed areas of flesh which I then swore were turning blue.

The fishing had been fairly slow with a pick of medium sized flatties just about covering the bottom of our 48 quart fish cooler. Surrounding us were several of the Captree party boats with full crowds and a fleet of small craft almost twenty strong. Each boat seemed to be taking enough flatties to keep everyone interested but no one was filling their bucket. Most of the fishermen, like ourselves, were not adequately dressed for the unexpected cold snap and in my particular boat, a small argument was brewing between my brother and myself over whether it was Storm Field or Mother Nature that had done it to us again. Just as we were coming to an agreement that it was our own fault for not bringing along wool knit hats and warmer jackets despite the prediction of temperatures in the mid-60s, a series of loud shouts and applause from several anglers on a party boat anchored just off our port side attracted our attention. We turned to look just in time to see a five or six pound blackfish hoisted over the rail by a rather rotund fisherman sporting a huge grin. About ten minutes later, another tog was taken by a surprised youngster on the same boat. Although considerably smaller than the first fish, it would be fair to say that this three pounder looked every inch as big to the young angler judging by his reaction. Before the day was over, we witnessed several more scattered 2 to 4 lb. blackfish taken by a variety of fishermen and a solid three pounder even managed to top off our catch of about 20 flounder.

Well known for its fine spring flounder fishing, most early season



Fire Island Inlet's rock piles will produce an occasional bulldog.

anglers take blackfish from the waters of Fire Island Inlet only by accident, treating an occasional encounter with these tough skinned crustacean crushers as a welcome treat but nothing to be taken seriously. That's too bad when you consider that a few "quiet" fishermen do work this area specifically for blackfish, often with very impressive results.

It's common knowledge among south shore sinker bouncers that all of our south shore inlets hold blackfish populations each spring and fall but for some reason, Fire Island Inlet seems to get less attention than some of the others. This is strange when you consider just how many productive locations are within its confines. Virtually the entire eastern rock-lined shoreline can be fished by either boat or foot and there is even a productive (sometimes), public dock situated just north of the Robert Moses Park office

(use R.M. Parking Field 3). At the bay end sits the obvious structure of the Robert Moses Bridge abutments. The north side of the inlet features several rock piles including the famed "Sore Thumb" at the mouth of the inlet in addition to a sunken barge located between this point and the Oak Beach rock piles. What more in the form of structure could a blackfish ask for in such a short stretch of water? For some fishermen, perhaps the prospect of a tiderunner weakfish or the fine fluke fishing which begins about this time of year inside the bay is more tempting than matching wits with such a cunning competitor as the blackfish. I don't know. But how anyone could completely pass up such a fine tasting and excellent fighter is beyond me.

Since blackfishing methodology is covered frequently in this magazine,

(Continued on next page.)

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I'm going to confine this article to working specific areas. If you need more help on rigging, baiting up, hooking, etc., check some of your back issues of *The Fisherman*. There are quite a few good articles explaining technique. In fact, in Issue #39, 1982, I wrote a spot on Moriches Inlet Tog. The same rigs and baiting procedures described in that piece can be used here.

Let's take a little closer look now at some of the better producing locations within the confines of this inlet. We'll begin by looking at the Sore Thumb area. This location is given its name because of a rock-lined point which juts out from the north side into the mouth of Fire Island Inlet. It is easily identifiable because it sticks out into the current like "a sore thumb." The pocket of deep water on the inside of the thumb is the place with which you will most want to concern yourself. A favorite location for surfcasters to work weakfish, blues, fluke, and flounder, the Thumb is accessible by boat or four wheel drive. Hikers can also trek out to the point. However, it is quite a trip and there is no suitable parking area nearby.

If you are fishing from a boat, it's possible to use a two hook rig without sacrificing too many rigs. From the shore, though, I would stick to a single hook setup. Quite a few big fish are pulled from this location each year with two pounders about average and five or six pounders not uncommon. I've found skimmer clam or green crab baits to produce about equally here with calico crabs a good third choice.

Surprisingly, the blackfishing in this spot is not restricted to tight against the jetty. I guess there must be scattered cover throughout the area as big blackfish are frequently taken a good distance from the rocks. This is especially pleasing to the shorebound fishermen because it means that the boaters do not have to crowd the shore in order to get in on the action. Surfcasters will find the best action in tight, while boaters can hang a pot of cracked mussels over the stern to draw and hold the fish at their location. Three to six ounces of lead are needed to hold bottom here once the tide starts moving with the best action reserved for change of tide periods.

Still on the west side, but slightly southeast of the Thumb, lie the Oak Beach rock piles. There are three but only the middle one seems to produce consistent catches. Mostly a shore fisherman's spot, the fish here are generally smaller than those "up front" with 3/4 to 1 1/2 lb. fish the norm. Occasional three and four pound fish spice up each day's action but few bulldogs are taken. The biggest problem fishing here is the high number of bergalls. Thus, green or calico crab baits are the best bet as these pests will make short work of fiddler or clam baits. If the bergalls are real thick, try using a small whole crab or cutting your baits in half

rather than quarters. The key to filling a bucket here is to cast to the point where the jetty ends underwater. This is only about 20 or 25 feet at high tide. Placing your baits right at the end point will avoid many of the bergalls and also put you where the biggest fish seem to keep shop. Casting further, however, is useless as there is little more than a sandy bottom which holds few blackfish. Single hook rigs are the only logical choice here and expect to lose a few of these each trip as the bottom here is very rugged.

Standing proud as the gateway to Great South Bay, the pilings supporting the Robert Moses Bridge can at times be the most productive blackfish location in the area, but they do have several drawbacks. For starters, they are accessible only to boaters; there is no fishing from the bridge itself. Secondly, anchoring here is an arduous chore which must be undertaken carefully. To really get into the fish, you must get your boat fairly tight against the abutment but not close enough that the wind or tide will rub you against it. Be careful not to misjudge the strength of the current as you anchor: it is very strong once the water starts gushing. Never attempt to anchor here alone. You need someone to watch the boat as you settle in.

My favorite site is the third piling from the southern shore. Aside from some really large blackfish, sea bass are a frequent by-catch here. Green or calico crabs are the preferred bait choices. Although I prefer to fish a single hook setup, some anglers do work tandem rigs without too many problems. The average fish here goes about 1 1/2 lbs., but I've seen them reach 8 to 10 lbs. on occasion. Most days see at least a few 3 to 5 lbs. Although I've never fished the north side, I have heard that it is productive.

The rocks along the length of Robert Moses north side are where I spend most of my blackfishing time these days. While hopping from rock to rock can at times be somewhat treacherous, the fishing here is often excellent. This location is accessible to boaters and shorebound anglers alike. If you intend to fish here from shore you can park in one of the Robt. Moses parking fields and hike over. Look for small points that jut out just a little further or that seem to be in deeper water than the surrounding rocks to be your most productive locations. Also, be aware that some of the newer rock beds do not as yet have mussels clinging to them. These are not usually good to work. A general rule to follow is the more mussels on a set of rocks the better the fishing. Single hook rigs are your best bet. Fiddler, green, or calico crabs all work here and clam is a good choice also. Bergalls can be a problem at times, but casting out a few feet beyond the rocks will often help to avoid them. Although most of the fish along this stretch run between one

and two pounds, my wife Tina, a good blackfisherman in her own right, has a knack for catching four and five pounders here.

One other location which deserves mention is a sunken barge which is located between the Sore Thumb and the Oak Beach rock piles on the north side of the inlet. While I have never fished it myself, I occasionally hear of fishermen racking up high scores over this piece of real estate. From what I've been told, the wreck is situated just between the middle and western-most jetty.

Because of the areas in which blackfish choose to reside, be sure to bring along plenty of spare hooks and sinkers. Especially is this important for the shorebound anglers, as they must reel their fish across or even through rocks and bottom debris as opposed to their boating counterparts who lift their fish straight up and thus away from the worst snags. Ideally, a sturdy rod of 5½ to 6½ feet in length matched to a conventional style reel filled with 20 to 30 lb. test mono should be used by boaters. On the other hand, a 7 to 8 foot stick and heavy spinning reel is the preferred choice of the shore crowd as a rod of this length will allow you to more easily direct any bulldogs away from potential snags as you guide them through the rocks. Keep in mind that these specifications are only suggestions and other tackle or baits can be substituted.

As far as terminal tackle is concerned, if you have done any black-fishing before, then you know that your hook choice must be the Virginia style. I find size #5 to be ideal for most situations. If I run into larger than usual fish I will step up to a #4, but this is not even necessary. The Virginia style hook is the only one I've found that can stand up to the abuse and wear and tear that a day of black-fishing can exert.

Sinker weights vary depending on where you fish and what stage of the tide you are working. A selection of three to six ounce leads will prepare you for most situations. If you need to go heavier, it's usually better to move to a new spot. Use bank sinkers whenever possible and avoid pyramid sinkers like the plague as they hang up frequently due to their configuration.

I've never had much luck working any of these spots on a falling tide, but both the first half and tail end of high tide are productive. Some springs the fishing here is excellent but other years just so-so. The past three years have been very good. You should also know that the fall season is even more productive than the spring. Fish the same locations the same way.

Now that you know about the hidden treasure of Fire Island Inlet, it's up to you to get out there and start prospecting for some of that black gold. Here's hoping you do well enough to fill your plate with a healthy portion of blackfish nuggets.

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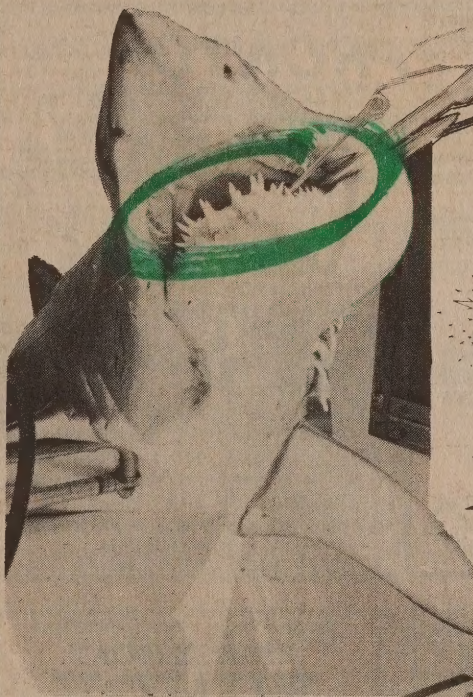
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East End REPORT

with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

Good catches of cod, pollock, flounder, some weaks, and fluke during the beginning of the week, before the raging winds, are just a hint of fantastic fishing in the near future, when and if the winds settle down to a whisper.

MONTAUK

Maureen Sennefelder reported that a Marina based boat from **Gone Fishing Marina**, the "Heavy Hitters" had 28 cod up to 20 lbs. fishing at the Sub Buoy on Tuesday, April 30th. Tom Donahue and Mike Hurst found their best action at the last of the flood and beginning of the ebb tide. The next day, the "Pac-Man" owned by Wm. Emmerson Jr., tried flounder at Tobaccolot Bay, returning to the marina with 20 flounder, top weight 3 lbs. with the best action at the top of the high tide and beginning of the outgoing.

On Sunday, approximately 30 members of the Patchogue Fishing Club fished the Gardiner's Island area in their Annual Snowshoe Flounder Derby. Seven trailored boats launched either at **Gone Fishing Marina** or the East Hampton Town Ramp (sticker required), with one group led by Neil Van Ginnoven fishing on a large **Uhlein's Rental** boat. The group, all experienced fishermen, tried every conceivable area within the tournament limits. Best catch was made at Bostwick Point, where John Denninger and his group on the "Lazy J's" caught 18 flounder. On the "Weketchum", George Deitz, J.D. May, Jim Belmonte, John Yennick, and myself, fished east Promised Land, Eastern Plains Point, and Tobaccolot Bay for a total catch of 24 flounder and 4 blackfish. Others in the club tried the Fish Factory at Promised Land, Buoy 10, and the Ruins at Gardiner's with similar results. Largest flounder was caught by Bill Rockwell at Eastern Plains Point, 3 lbs. 6 ozs., the second place fish was a tie between Steve Gehrke and myself each catching a 2 lb. 7 1/2 oz. flounder. The largest blackfish was 5 lbs. 10 ozs. We found the best action at full high tide and beginning of the ebb. Our efforts, however, were hampered by a strong SW wind which started as a whisper at 6AM launching time, and ended with gusts of over 30 mph by tournament end at 3:30PM.

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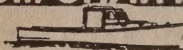
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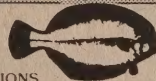
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areas of Gardiner's Island on Sunday on the *Allyssa Ann* meeting similar results on flounder, with Matt Reid and his friends. Capt. Ricca reported that codfishing was pretty good before the northeaster last week, but slowed down considerably over the weekend. Cod to 30 lbs. in weight were common before the blow.

Capt. Jerry McGrath located some cod in the 15 lb. range with the Semkow brothers, Ray from Rocky Point, and Tom a Middle Village resident, fishing on the *Nostalgia II* at the Hooter Buoy on Saturday. Capt. McGrath noted plenty of mackerel in the area and also noted that all the cod were taken in the morning, with considerably slower fishing in the afternoon.

I heard that the season is beginning for the *Mako Express* which will start on Montauk flounder, using Ultra light tackle. She's ready to tangle with the monster sharks she's named after in June. Very few open dates remain for shark, marling, and tuna. "We expect our greatest season yet", says the crew, Capt. Zac Grossman, weekend mate Bob "Goldy" Goldberg, and new weekday mate, Cathy Crandall.

Call Capt. Mike Albronde for details on his snowshoe flounder special trips on the *Montauk*. Capt. Albronde has outfitted the boat with new light Diawa rods and reels and is ready for action. There are still a few large cod fish around however as evidenced by the catch on the *Montauk* on Wednesday (the last calm day last week) a group which included Corey Titland, caught 19 codfish, most over 15 lbs. with a couple in the 30 lb. range. The pool fish, however, was a 69 pound cod that took a combination diamond jig and Sekora Monkey Tail lure (lime green). This giant cod, weighed at the *Montauk Marine Basin*, is the largest

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cod caught this month in the Montauk area. After this fine catch on Wednesday, codfishing slacked off, as the winds and storms rolled into the area. Capt. Mike stated, however, that he saw lots of bait during this trip, both sand eels and mackerel and is optimistic about the rest of the spring cod season.

A "Big-Mac Attack" took place on the **Julie III** on Saturday, when Paul Samengetti and his friends boated 1,110 bostons with Captain Ron Grandinetti. Sunday's trip, in very windy conditions, resulted in 485 mackerel for Tyrone Lewis of New York City, along with 16 flounder as a bonus.

Inhibiting weather conditions have slowed cod and pollock catches, according to Capt. Phil Lewis of the charter boat **Adios**. However, before the winds blew up last week, a trip with Harvey Associates of New Jersey, resulted in a catch of 50 pollock and 8 codfish. The feelings of all the capains at Montauk is that when the weather settles down, the fishing will return to its normal productive state.

Captain Michael Potts has caught 4-7 nice pollock each trip on the **Bluefin IV**, indicating a good start for the May pollock run. Cod have averaged about 25 per trip, with average weight in the 15-20 lb. range.

The Moriches Anglers and Great Gun Anglers Fishing Clubs chartered the **Viking Star** for a interclub codfish tournament on Sunday. 50 anglers caught 25 cod, top weight about 15 lbs. George Hodum was high hook, with 6 cod, while Steve Cascia took the pool. Lots of conger eels were a side catch. The boat fished on Cox's Ledge. Winner of the codfish tournament: Moriches Anglers.

Capt. Mike Bock fished on Cox's Ledge, where the **Viking Starship** had a slow pick of cod on Sunday. However, some large fish were caught with a cod of 53 pounds winning the pool and a 47 pound fish taking second place. Capt. Bock remarked that although he spotted pods of cod on the fish recorder, sea and wind conditions did not allow him to drift but to anchor instead. Given ideal weather conditions, all these fish marked on paper will be served on dinner plates!

I neglected to mention the combination George's Bank, Nantucket trip scheduled for the **Starship** on the evening of May 12th, returning May 14th. Call the **Viking** office for rates, Reservations, and for a printed schedule.

Captain Richie Rade reports fair catches on the **Marlin IV** this past week with anywhere from 3-13 fish (cod, pollock and blackfish) per man taken per day. The pool cod is usually in the 25 lb. range. On Sunday Lou Rosado, usually at **Edelman's** and his friend Doc Saren fished on the **Marlin IV**, where Lou reported that 8 anglers caught 25 cod, on clam bait. A large school of mackerel set up right under

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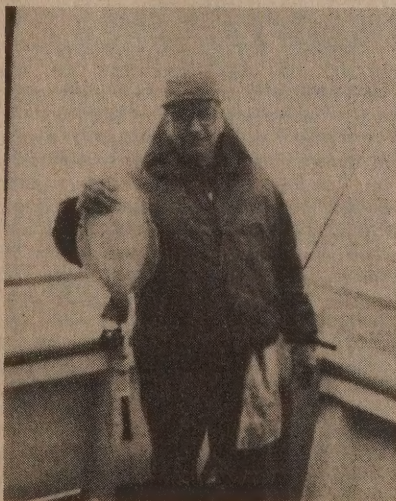
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Lou Samson displays a hefty 2 lb. 2 oz. flattie that he decked this spring aboard the open boat, "Miss Babylon."

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Marc Pagnozzi poses with part of a big catch of flatfish that he and Damiano Pagnozzi caught during a recent trip aboard the Seaford Based open boat, "Chinco III."

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the boat, where those who opted to rig up with mackerel trees caught all the Bostons they could handle—and more than they wanted in some cases. The action took place at the Hooter buoy at Block Island.

Ladies, take notice! On Mother's Day, May 12, the **Marlin IV** will feature a special discount fare for MOTHERS ONLY. Every mother will pay half fare—but must be accompanied by a father!

Henry Uihlein called to tell me that on Wednesday, Jack the Painter from Brentwood caught 23 flounder on the outgoing tide, on a trip to Promised Land/Devon Harbor. Jack's workers, John, Steve and Willie were along on a Uihlein's Rental 19 ft. Thunderbird. Biggest flounder weighed in at 3 lbs. 2 oz. On the same day, Bill Schreiber and his son returned to College Point with flounder caught at Tobaccot Bay at the change of tide. Fish ranged as large as 3 lbs.

SOUTH FORK

The winds blew as strong at Sag Harbor as the rest of the Island last week, with a gust of 50 mph clocked Friday at Bayview Marine & Tackle. A few rental boats were out on Saturday, most returning with a couple of dozen flounder, however

one "sharpie" managed 70 flounder from Nicol's Point (near Cedar Point). Chris Salb heard of some mackerel at Jessups Neck with rumors of weaks under them. A reminder, Porgy Time is almost here. Make your plans to get in at the beginning of the run, usually the largest fish are caught then. Chris also told me of a mackerel catch, over 100, made at Montauk-Cartrite by his friends Al Philips, Stan Dacuk, and Bill Bennet over the weekend.

Captain Artie Lach reported continued red hot flounders on the **Wilhelric** the past week with good action at Petty's Bight on Monday and Tuesday. Bob Washington alone accounted for 27 flounder in his catch on Tuesday. On Wednesday, after action slowed in late morning, Capt. Lach took the **Wilhelric** to the north side of Gardiner's Island where he encountered a slow pick all day. The water is still on the cold side, and although some large flounder are around, the run is about two weeks late. After the northeaster, Saturday and Sunday resulted in a slow pick of flounder at Orient, Petty's Bight, and the Soundview Motel in Greenport (Sound side). Capt. Lach found best results on mussels, all tides produced equally well. A note: Capt. Lach will not be sailing on May 12th, Mother's Day.

The **Wilhelric**'s first weakfish trip is planned for 7PM Wednesday, May

15th. Reports of good beginning weakfish action have come in from Shinnecock Canal where the "Cowboy" captured 11 weakfish, top weight 12½ lbs. using white touts. All indications forecast a super weakfish season coming up.

Thom Speckenback reported not only weakfish in the Shinnecock Canal, but also a few fluke, one of 4½ lbs. caught over the weekend and reported to him at **Speck's Bait and Tackle** in Southampton. Walter Bohnenberger, with John and Carl Licht continue to pull flounder from the Promised Land area, with the Fish Factory spot giving up a huge flounder of 4.6 on Sunday, along with a few dozen in the 2½ lb. range. Incoming tide provided the best action. Thom has heard rumors of weakfish in both the South Race and Jessups in the Peconics. In the Shinnecock Bay, the Basket has yielded a few flounder on calm days during the past week.

Larry Marinillo states that the launch ramp at **Corr's Mariners Cove** in Hampton Bays is in full operational condition for trailored boats. Early last week, fishermen in rental skiffs started catching nice flounder in the Bay, with east channel one of the hot spots. A few flounder were still holding in at Heady Creek, according to Larry. Lots of mackerel were ganged up at the Sea Buoy outside of Shinnecock Inlet. A few reports came in of weakfish in the Peconics as well as an apparent beginning of a flounder season at Gardiner's Island.

A chat with Mickey Altenkirch at **Altenkirch & Son** in Hampton Bays revealed that weakfish started going through the Shinnecock Canal Friday night, continuing through all lock closings over the weekend. Most weaks are in the 3-5 lb. range, with a few larger ones taken as well. Jelly worms and bucktails are doing the best. A few fluke were caught as well, one fisherman had 3 keepers, on traditional baits: sand eels, spearing,

shiners, and bucktails laced with squid. Mickey heard of solid flounder action in Tiana Bay, west of Buoy 11. Henry Bergamaschi (the butcher) reported a catch of 39 flounder from 1 to 1 1/2 lbs.

For a Shinnecock tide table, which shows lock closings in the canal, mail a self-addressed envelope to **Altenkirch & Son**, Hampton Bays.

South Shore REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

Last week's howling nor'easter had a chilling effect on the fishing picture around much of the Island. In Moriches Bay, flounder fishing appeared to be moving in the right direction with very good fishing reported through mid-week. Fishing deteriorated considerably as a result of the storm with some improvement noted by Sunday. Weakfish catches in Great South Bay remained scattered with colder water temperatures again very likely a factor. There were a number of positive signs concerning newly arrived species. Many flounder anglers reported a smattering of blowfish, blackfish, fluke and even some pogies mixed in with their catches.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

We had some very good flounder fishing prior to the storm according to Gary Grunseich of **Silly Lilly Fishing Station** in East Moriches. The fishing did bounce back on Sunday for at least some boatmen. Wednesday was the best day of the week but even in Thursday's storm, Gary and a friend managed 60 nice fish in just a couple of hours time. On Sunday, Matt and John Viol put away 71 flatties fishing opposite Haven's Point and north of buoy 42. They went through half a bushel of mussel chum and used bloods and sands for bait. Most of the better fishing has been from Hart's Cove to Buoy 43 on the flats though some decent fishing was found south of buoy 33 in deeper water on the outgoing tide.

From **Seatuck Cove Fishing Station** in Eastport, Andy Hegeman said that all of the wind again hindered the fishing from getting off the ground. The weekend action was pretty tough with the best catch made by Ray Hiruko and his son Jimmy along with Mike Frluckaj. The trio took 35 flatties on the last of the flood near Haven's Point. Most were between 1 and 2 pounds.

Capt. Ron Schleuter of the

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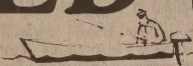
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Moriches based Alma Fleet reported improved flounder fishing prior to the storm and somewhat erratic action following the blow. Most of the fish being taken averaged between 1 and 1½ pounds with some bigger fish mixing in. The skipper has had his best success near Buoy 43 on incoming water. On the Ebb, he has been working buoys 27, 29 and 45-47. In Friday's rain with 16 fares aboard, of which only half fished, the skipper figured 150 flatties were taken west of Buoy 43. Friday night's cold temperatures dropped bay water temperatures and resulted in a poor day on Saturday. Sunday showed signs of improved action again. Ron noted that the first blowfish catches were made in the bay on Sunday. He had one aboard the Alma and saw several others taken aboard other boats.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Paul Graniello of J & J Tackle in Patchogue told me that despite several reliable reports of weakfish being taken at Ocean Beach, he has yet to weigh his first tiderunner. He noted that angler effort was reduced considerably by all of the wind of last week and over the weekend. Paul's best flounder report came from Moriches where George Dietz and J.D. May of Patchogue Fishing Club directed their efforts on Wednesday. Chumming with mussels near buoy 42 helped the pair put away 75 'real nice' fish. Gene Felice found a dozen small but keeper flatties opposite Davis Park on Saturday but Paul noted the better flatfish action in the bay is now located to the west near the inlet. There were plenty of mackerel taken outside of both inlets on the weekend. Out of Fire Island, most boatmen reported finding their fish SE in 60-80' of water while Moriches boatmen found good numbers of fish at the Sea Buoy. Paul also had reports of fluke taken from the Shinnecock Canal this week as well as in both Moriches and Great South Bays. While he didn't see any of the fish, he considered his sources as reliable.

Al Colban of J & R Sports Center in Oakdale said that Saturday saw very good mackerel action in the vicinity of the NB Buoy. There were reports of good catches made anywhere from 50-75' south of the inlet. On Sunday, the better fishing under a stiff SW wind was found to the east-southeast. At least one skipper reported a decent pick of fish in 45-50' of water to the east. The crew aboard the 'And How' put away a dozen nice flounder between 1 and 1½ pounds off the Superintendent's House at Robert Moses on Sunday. The better flounder fishing seems to be on the mussel beds between the lighthouse and Robert Moses with the best fishing at

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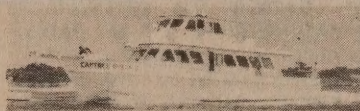
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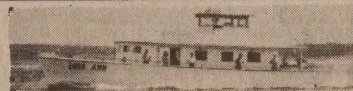
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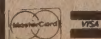
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the Sore Thumb still a week or two away. Al had reports of some porgies in the 1 pound class taken at Buoy 12 (Ocean Bay Park) on the weekend. Also, blowfish and blackfish have mixed in with the flatties in most spots from the lighthouse to the inlet. Several weakfish hopefuls reported taking fluke this past week.

Eileen Cioffi from **Peppy's Tackle Shop** in East Islip said that while she didn't see any weakfish over the weekend, she had a couple of customers relaying stories of seeing at least a couple of fish netted by other boatmen. Peppy ran off to the NB Buoy on Friday in his Sea Scape and put away 100 mackerel. Several boatmen reported good catches of Bostons with some herring mixed in, SE of the inlet in 70' of water.

Larry Oehler who reported to Carl Miller of **Smokey's Tackle Shop** in Bay Shore last weekend that he dropped a weakfish in West Channel, produced ample evidence this weekend of his weakfish encounters. He put Jim Szika onto a 10½ pound tiderunner while dropping another fish. This was on sand and jellyworm combos. He told Carl that he marked lots of weaks down on the bottom but cold water temperatures are apparently keeping the fish off their feed. Saturday morning's action was on incoming water. Carl looked over a catch of 35 nice flatties taken from Dickerson Channel on Saturday by another boatman who reported a drop in bay temperature six degrees since the storm. Most boats seem to be concentrating their flatfish efforts on the mussel beds along south beach between the Lighthouse and Robert Moses Park. Carl put a 7 pound blackfish on the scale for a boatman who took the fish while flounder fishing at Oak Beach. The best mackerel reports of the weekend concerned an area south of the old Lighthouse in 80' of water. Also Carl asked that we remind anglers of the new bass regs., particularly the 24" size limit and the season closure which runs from December 1st through May 7th. It seems some 19-20" strippers are being taken from the dock at Bay Shore Marina (not an uncommon occurrence during the spring) and either through ignorance or disregard for the new law, the fish are being kept.

Capt. Neil Delaney of the **Bay Shore** open boat **Casey Lee** reported some good days with the flatties this week working West Channel and the mussel beds between Kismet and the Coast Guard Station. Wednesday was the best day of the week with Joe Lobmeier accounting for 28 flatties and Harry Wydig taking 32. On the weekend, Charlie Payne fished both days and counted 41 keepers for his efforts. Neil said that most of the fish are good size in the 1-1¼ pound range with just a few throwbacks. Also a few blowfish and occasional blackfish are now mixing with the flatties.

Capt. George Tweedy of the **Captree** open boat **Capt. Scotty 3** reported

a tough day with the mackerel on Saturday but good fishing again on Sunday. The first half of the week saw fares take 1-2 bags per man before the northeaster came along. The skipper has been working mostly south of the inlet. He reminded that he will begin sailing 7PM daily for weaks on Wednesday, May 15th in addition to his full day sailing schedule. If you are looking to get in on the weakfish action be sure to bring along your own light spinning outfit.

Capt. Carl Passaro of the open boat **Miss Captree** had some good words for the flounder fishing this past week. During Thursday's howling northeaster, 7 fares accounted for nearly 250 flatties. One regular by the name of Ferdinand of Astoria, Queens walked off the boat with 47 fish. On Saturday, Sam Small and a friend counted 60 flatties between them. Same day, Carl's dad, Carl Sr., visiting from Florida, put away 27 nice fish. Sunday was another story with a tough pick the rule for much of the day. Carl has been working the mussel beds along south beach and at the Lighthouse as well as finding some fish up in Dickerson Channel. He too will join the weakfish chase beginning Friday night, May 10th at 6PM. He will be seeking small blues along with the weaks during the 4 hour trips. Bring along your spinning gear reminded the Captain.

Capt. Andy Buglione of the **Captree** charter boat 7Cap'n Andy worked the South Beach mussel beds both Saturday and Sunday and reported pretty fair flounder action on both days. No real big numbers but good size fish prevail. In addition to the flatties, 25-30 blackfish were taken each day on worm and clam baits meant for flatties. Saturday saw a 6 pound tautog come aboard. Some blowfish are also mixing with the flatties now.

Capt. Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen II** spoke of some good flounder fishing during the week and also on the weekend. He has been working Clam Pond, West Channel, and the Lighthouse area and finding fish ranging from ¾-1½ pounds. A couple of fluke as well as some blowfish are beginning to mix into the flounder catches. Gordon reminded that he has selected Friday, May 17th for his first shot at weakfish. He will be sailing 7PM daily for the yellowfins.

Over at the **Babylon Village Dock**, Capt. Bob Newbauer of the open boat **Miss Babylon** reported a couple of good days with the flatties on the mussel beds along South Beach. He also noted that some blackfish are also mixing in with the flatties. Some flounder still being taken in the State Channel and the first catches of blowfish were recorded this past week.

Tom Healy speaking from **Augie's Tackle Shop** in **Babylon** said that last Wednesday marked their first official weakfish and fluke weigh-ins. Both were taken aboard Vinnie DiMartino's 'Six D's' at Ocean Beach. Vinnie had

the weak, a 4½ pounder, while George Burns managed a 16" fluke. While Tom did not put any weaks on the scale over the weekend, he did know that some were caught based on radio chatter. Flounder catches are now concentrated along the south side of the bay between Ocean Beach, South Beach and the Sore Thumb. A Mr. Leonard weighed a 7½ pound blackfish taken from the Sore Thumb shore over the weekend. Pete Nowinski checked in a catch of 15 flounder up to 2.6 pounds on Sunday. Pete chose to run west to Squaw Island for his flatfishing. Ed Torkildson of the BCA charter boat **Tork I** fished south of the inlet on Wednesday and finished with between 150 and 200 Boston mackerel. As we spoke on Monday morning, the best mackerel action, though somewhat sporadic, seemed to be southeast of the inlet in nearly 90' of water. This via chatter on the marine radio.

A bit to the west at **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle**, Mike Andreani reported looking over a fine catch of 50 flatties from 1-1½ pounds made by Sal and Ed Lecce on Sunday. The pair fished at the old Lighthouse and took most of their fish on the morning's flood tide. On Saturday, Tony Carpien-tieri topped off a catch of 100 mackerel with 15-20 herring as well as several good sized whiting. Mike spoke of a couple of customers who intentionally tried for fluke on the weekend. They managed a fish in the State Channel on sandeels before switching over to flatties. Some blackfish are being taken at Kismet and at the Sore Thumb and while Mike did not weigh any weaks on the weekend, he knows from reliable sources that fish are being picked on jellyworms and sandworms at West Channel and Ocean Beach.

From **Z Crab Tackle** in **Copiague**, Ralph Angelillo reported a catch of 200 mackerel for Chris and Jason Lamantia over the weekend. They had a bunch as herring as well fishing in 80' of water southeast of the inlet. On Sunday, Joe and Greg Gardula ran to only 50' of water, southeast to take 80 macks. Ralph noted that customers have been reporting their best success with mylar tubes as opposed to the normal colored tubes. He does have them in stock. Concerning weakfish, Ralph weighed an 8.12 pound tiderunner for a regular named Rick. It was taken on a red jellyworm in West Channel on Sunday. Also on Sunday, a customer by the name of John weighed weaks of 6 and 6½ pounds. He used a Red Gill dropper fished just ahead of a white jellyworm and took both fish on the dropper. On Saturday, Bill and Joe Biscardi settled atop the remains of the Rota Wreck off of Tobay. Using green and calico crabs, the pair put away nearly 50 blackfish most in the 4-5 pound class.

Bob Vitale of **Bob's Bait and Tackle** in **Amity Harbor** had no specifics to report but did know from reliable

sources of a few fluke taken on sandeels in the State Channel near Frank and Dick's. Also, a couple of good flounder reports from the vicinity of the Lighthouse with a couple of customers reporting the first blowfish of the season taken on flounder baits. One boatman fishing SE of the Inlet for mackerel reported taking a couple of small blues out of the same chum slick.

From **Edelman's** in **Farmingdale**, Frank Pristera reported that Fred Walters did a nice job on the mackerel last Wednesday in 60' of water SE of the inlet. On Saturday, the Main Fleet was located at Loran coordinates 466937-266083. Sunday, Joe Carollo and his son Chris fished 65 feet of water ESE of Fire Island and put away nearly 100 mackerel. They also had what was either a sand bar or porbeagle shark come up and take a swipe at one of their hooked mackerel. Dave Larsen and Cal Lon used 6" Mr. Twisters to take 3 weaks at Ocean Beach on Sunday. Taken on the morning's flood tide, the fish weighed in at 6, 8 and 10 pounds.

Ken Kiseli of Massapequa called to report a fine day of mackerel fishing aboard his boat 'Barbara Ann II'. Along with Ken were his brother Steve, his two daughters Jackie and Cheri and Tony Procopio. The group put away nearly 200 macks on jigs and tubes—no chum. They found their best fishing in 100' of water but caught fish as close as 40' after taking 170 degree heading from Jones Inlet.

West End REPORT with Stu Miller

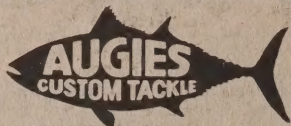
Of course we could not get away this week without our share of wind and rain. It came towards the end of the week and put a damper on the flounder action to some extent. But at the beginning of the week through midweek and to a degree Saturday an Sunday, fair to good flounder catches were made. Blackfish have been strong at local bridges and wrecks, while mackerel continue to oblige not far offshore with herring and whiting mixed in as well. A few fluke of various sizes are also beginning to be caught.

WEST END BAYS/ JONE'S INLET

We hear from Capt. Brian of the open boat **Chinco III** that flounder action was good through the week

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with high hooks in the 50s each day. Weekend action was very slow said the skipper due to dirty water and the strong moon tides. Worm worked best with all local spots producing. Sizes have increased a lot with fish mostly a pound and up and pools all in the 2 lb. class.

A call from Pop's Fishing Station told of very good floundering through Wednesday with the rain and wind starting on Thursday. Some flounder catches were exceptionally good with high catch of the week for pals Ken O'Connell, Ed Lorne and Art Hill bailing 203 flaties on Wednesday. The weekend's catches were poor to fair in quantity, but were large fish.

some blow fish and eels were included in the catch, as winds definitely took their toll. Worm-mussel combos work best with heavy chumming a key factor.

Word from the Seaford charter boat 3 Sea Sons is that the boat has splashed in and is ready to do battle for '85 according to skippers Sig and Frank. See ad for details.

We Hear from Wanser's Tackle that plenty of flounder were caught around the wind and rain with Massapequa Cove, Zachs Bay, Squaw Island and bulkhead drain being very good. Decent catches of blackfish at the offshore wrecks and Meadowbrook bridge on fiddlers and green

crab while the first few fluke are being seen in Jones Inlet.

The word from Capt. Eddy's Fishing Station in Seaford is that before the weekend flounder action was very good on fish of good sizes, up to 2½ lbs. Action has been at Massapequa Cove and Great Island channel. Worms and plenty of chum are the ticket with best action all around the high. Macks and whiting outside the inlet at the J1 and J2 buoy.

Over at Causeway Tackle in Wantagh Mike passed on the word that the floundering seemed to be poor on the weekend with lots of east wind and moon tides. Rowboat Alley was the

best bet with very good catches being 15 to 25 fish a boat. The ticket was blood worms and heavy chumming. Few but very large fish came out of Massapequa Cove and Squaw this week. On Tues. Joe and Larry worked Massapequa Cove in 8 to 10 ft. of water taking 105 flounder on an ebbing tide. Fluke have show in Reynolds and Swift said Mike, while blackfish have been a good item at the bridges with a lot of 1½ to 2 lb. fish chomping fiddlers and greens. Mackerel have been very good to poor, depending where you ran.

From **Garon's Tackle** in Merrick we hear the flounder fishing has been up and down this week in Merrick Bay, with fish up to 1½ lbs. Blackfishing at the bridges has been fair to good. Mackerel have been taken in 70 ft. of water, 150 degrees out of Jones.

Over in Freeport, word from **Lou's Fishng Station** at the mouth of Wood-cleft Canal said that despite all the wind and rain it was not a bad week in total. Thursday saw super mackerel action at the Whistler buoy while on Saturday private boats using chum enjoyed very good catches of macks in 65 to 85 ft. of water working to the SE. Blacks very good on the weekend at the T Wreck, Stone and Coal Barges and at the Iberia on greenies. A few nice sea bass were also taken on the wrecks. Floundering was spotty to fair this week with catches up to 3 lb. 4 oz. along with an occasional fluke. Whiting catches have been superb being taken close to the bottom while mackerel fishing.

Word from the **Starstream II** is that the mackerel action remains strong and close to Jones Inlet. Thursday saw excellent catches made and Saturday and Sunday's results were classified as good. These are big Bostons up to 2 lbs.

We hear from Capt. Pat of the charter boat **Lady J III** regarding flounder trips this past week which fished Reynolds, Swift and Merrick Bay and on worms, clams and mussels picked fish to 2½ lbs. Monday's trip was for the 109 Precinct, Queens, Saturday's trip was for IBM and Sunday for Forest Valley Tavern. On Wednesday a trip for the 40th Precinct, Bronx, partook of a good mackerel and whiting trip with a few herring thrown in for good measure. Flounder action was best at the beginning of the week. Pat said wind and moon tides and rain put a crimp in the weekend flattie action.

A call from the charter boat **Corsair** told of Saturday's trip for the Mike Holder group which worked a local wreck on clam and green crab taking blackfish to 7¼ lbs., sea bass to 2½, along with a mess of mackerel, herring and ling. Sunday's charter for Melior Concepts of Spring Valley had a fair day on the flatties fishing local spots with bloodworms.

Fares picked away all week aboard the **Capt. Lou Fleet**. On the full day boat, fish ran up to 2½ lbs. On Tuesday, John Savko of Ossining, NY was high hook with 33 fish. High

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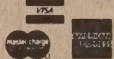
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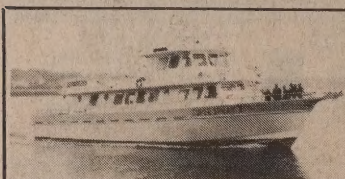
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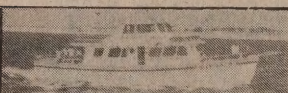
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hooks during the week all ran in the 30s. On the half day boat, Wednesday PM saw Artie Pagano of W. Babylon with 37 and Larry Tashman of Freeport with 35. Thursday PM trip yielded up 28 good keepers for Adam Dinsarski in the wind and rain. The weekend was slow due to Thursday and Friday's storm, but things should be super again by the time you read this report, said Capt Mike.

Congratulations to Capt. Dan Polara and his wife Nancy on the birth of their 7 lb. 6 oz. daughter, whom they have named Valarie.

Word from the **Freeport Boatmen's Association** told of very good mackerel catches on the **Super Spray II** and on the Association's charter vessels. Macks were scattered all over the ocean said dock master Bob with good shots of whiting mixed in. Flounder action only fair on the weekend, hurt by the wind and rain.

In nearby Point Lookout, the **Capt. Bill** told of Sunday's Catch for Roland Giuniti, of Port Washington with 24 flounder and Westbury regular Roosevelt Rogers with 20, who had followed up his catch on Saturday of 28 flatties. Bill said the morning flood tides have been best and also around the slack periods.

The weekday mackerel fishing was excellent aboard the **Capt. Al**. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday saw very good catches with Thursday being a real bonanza day with 2 to 4 burlap bags a man being filled with macks. The boat returned early to the dock. Saturday was a slug and a pick and Sunday's action was very good except for when the wind really let go in the afternoon. Al says the evening flounder trips have been very productive with the 4:30 sailings being very popular.

Scotty's Fishing Station spoke of plenty of flounder in the bay on the weekend with all of the incoming water right through the high the best. Buoy 16 to 20 in Reynolds and Middle Bay were the best areas for the week. Decent blackfishing at the Meadowbrook and Loop bridges and a few fluke picked from the bridge to the inlet. Macks in 60 to 80 feet of water SE of Jones and moving east. Phil Groso still leads the station's flounder derby with a 2 1/2 lber.

From the **Miss Point Lookout** came word of good midweek floundering with most high hooks being in the mid 20s. Wednesday's AM trip had Dan Cramer with 23 fish including the pool winner. On the PM trip, regular Artie was happy with 20 fish and a 2 lb. pool winner. Thursday saw Rich Reers with a 1 1/2 lb. pool flattie. The weekend was tough sledding due to the moon tides and catches were only fair. Even so on Saturday's PM trip, Dave Dorman bagged a 2 lb. 3 oz. pool winner.

A call from Capt. Dennis of the charter boat **Marie III** spoke of Tuesday's trip for U.S. Customs, doing good in Swift, Fundy and Reynolds on flounder. Tied for the pool were Mr. Polanski and Mr. Saver. Mr. O'Brien

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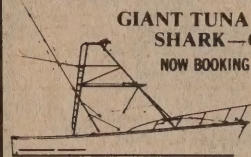
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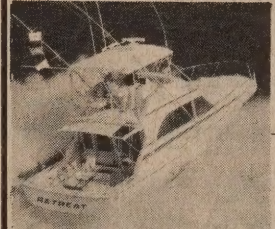
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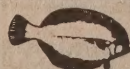
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was high hook with 30 fish. Saturdays trip for Joe Principale and group had a steady pick in Swift Creek and later drifting roughly 2 miles off the beach for a good catch of whiting. In the PM, a wreck provided good long and sea bass action up to 2lbs. and a mess of blackfish, dogfish and some skates and sea robins. Sunday's trip saw some decent flounder in Swift Creek, Fundy Bay and at the CG Station, with the last of outgoing water being very strong in front of the marina on worm and mussel bait.

We hear from **Ed's Fishing Station** of very good blackfishing at the Big M, fish up to 80 per skiff with fish going to 6 3/4 lbs. Fiddlers work best on slack water and the beginning of the flood. Flounder have been spotty due to storms and moon tides. Reynolds channel was classified as okay on bloods and mussels. A few short fluke have been caught along with a few small keepers and the station has all fluke bait including live killies in stock.

We learn from the **Commodore** out of Island Park that Bill Strobel on Saturday bagged the pool along with 24 more flounder, while Tom Mistret put away 31 fish. Sunday saw Ken Lemay with 27, Brian Gusman with 24, Walter Silver with 29, while Irene Schultz had 14 fish plus the pool winner. All fishing was on the inside.

The Island Park charter boat **Regina M** with Capt. Pete Mikoleski at the wheel had 53 flounder averaging 1 to 2 lbs. for Skip, Ken and Mick of City Bank. Action was all west of the ABB with heavy corn chumming.

Over in Lynbrook, **Beckmann's Tackle** said action was hot for anglers fishing from the Point Lookout pier, just west of the Pt. Lookout Bridge. Quantities of fish were good there right from Sunday. Some fluke have started east of Point Lookout bridge, but these are mostly shorts. Blackfish have been very decent at the bridges in numbers with sizes not spectacular as yet. Mackerel continue good offshore.

Long Beach Boat Rentals called to tell of very good blackfishing during the week with some big fish and large numbers of a general run of fish at the ABB. Dave Brown, age 13, bagged a 5 lb. black while Don and Frank had a tub full of blackfish to 8 lbs. This was Sunday using fiddlers on the last of incoming at the ABB. Flounder this week have been hot and cold with heavy chumming giving anglers their best shot. Some fluke have been taken in the area of the Point Lookout and Loop bridge areas.

Al at **Reynolds Reef Fishing Station** in Atlantic Beach told of flounder in Reynolds, off the Cedarhurst Yacht club and nearby feeder creeks, fish to 2 lbs. Magnolia Blvd. Pier has also been a producer. Blackfish at the ABB from 2 to 3 lbs. and at the Silver Point jetty to 5 lbs. on fiddlers and greenies. Macks spotty in 75 to 80 ft. of water SW of buoy 4 with whiting mixed in. Nice catches of whiting at Ambrose.

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NEW YORK BIGHT

The word out of **Skippy's Tackle** in East Rockaway is that flounder catches from the Pt. Lookout piers have been good as it has been at Reynolds buoys 16 and 17 and around the ABB. Fluking has started to start at Swift Creek and a couple of 3 to 10 lb. bluefish have been trolled off the beach this week on umbrellas.

Blackfish at the Rota wreck, Big M, ABB and Silver Pt. Jetty.

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle says that besides there being lots of bunker in Jamaica Bay, both flounder and blackfish are being caught from both the North and South channel bridges. Sizes are mixed with worm and clam best for flounder and fiddlers and green crab best on the blackfish.

We hear from the Howard Beach open boat **Capt. Mike** that flounder catches were very good during the

week with high hooks being in the 30s each trip. Mike found drifting was best when conditions permitted and it was a steady pull on fish 3/4 to 1 lb. Most fishing has been at Silver Hole, Broad channel and the Jamaica Bay side of Far Rockaway, otherwise known as Head of Bay. Sands working best on both tides.

To the west in Sheepshead Bay Capt. Walt of the **Flamingo III** told of good mackerel catches Sunday despite the long run. Ling fishing on local

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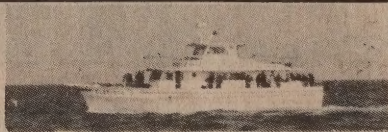
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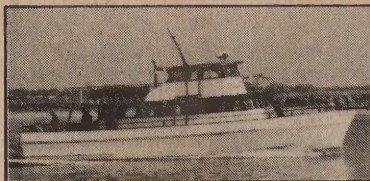
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wrecks has also been very good and excellent catches of whiting have also been had. Best whiting has also been in the Scotland/Ambrose area. Walt is now switching over to ling and whiting but will be keeping an eye on the mackerel picture and will take advantage of the macks if not too distant or sporadic.

Word from the **Dorothy B VII** is that fares are picking away at flounder, sea bass and some blackfish on the local grounds and those putting in a full day at the rail are toting up a very decent catch.

North Shore REPORT

with Marty Garrell

Blackfish were solid in the western corner of the Sound and just starting out east. The big Friday Northeaster

cooled the area and dirtied waters, which put off some of the flatfish and dampened the spirits of the mackerel that had just started around Port Jeff.

WESTERN SOUND

Larry Ricci at **John's Gun** in **New Rochelle** spoke of a start of blackfish from local pilings. Most of the fish are still being taken by flounder pounders but the shop has fiddlers and greens. Flounder action persists, too.

Jack's Bait on City Island found the fishing near the Bridge to be "stupendous" for early blackfish. Hal Smith had the best tautog of the season so far, a 9 pounder from Harts Island. Paul Coslitt and Michael DiCuffa had more than 100 flounder from Larchmont waters in a catch made with sandworms. Most of the fish were in the 3/4 pound class, but there were some to 2 pounds. John DiCuffa suggested that High Island had some tautog fishing as well.

Pete Anderson of the **North Star** had about a dozen blackfish in Sundays catch off Lloyds, with most of them "rats". However, the pool fish was around 4 pounds. Flounder seemed picky in the weedy waters, but 12-15 keepers per fare were the norm for the sharpies. Best flatties for selective knife-wielders were 3/4 to 1 1/4 pounds. Anderson will probably be concentrating on blackfish during the week with a shot at mackerel by next weekend.

Phil Nasi at the **Glen Cove Sport Shop** had his early bass last week, just as he predicted, on Rebels. These 14-16 inch rats were duly released. Nasi felt that the tautog angling had broken open with a catch by Gary Pickering and Ralph Melchione on the open bottom. The pair had 18 blackfish to 4 1/4 pounds. Flounder fishing was still good around Pryble Beach with some fish over a pound.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

Jerry Cedar at **Huntington Prop** reported a catch of 6 blackfish off Target Rock by Walt Stuvén. These early tautog ran up to 3 pounds. Charlie Burke hit a good batch of flounder off Callahnas on mussel and clam chum. Some of the fish in his catch were in the 2 pound class. It was easier to take numbers of 1 pound fish around Duck Island and Asharoken, where hauls of 40 per boat were no uncommon. George Valentine at **Four Winds in Huntington Station** spoke of a very few mackerel taken from Mid-Sound off Cranes. A lot of fish have been marked in past days, but water temperatures in the low 50s have kept the schools picky. Billy Collins of the **Ever Ready** had his first charter of the season on Sunday and expects to be sailing her as an open boat beginning next Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Tom Bowman at **Bowmans in Northport** said that the flounder run was still strong off the Coast Guard Station at Eatons on 1 1/4 pound fish in 30-35 feet of water. There were loads of small flatties off the town dock.

Tim Carafitis at the **Carafitis Fishing Station** mentioned some nice flounder outside with the largest fish in the 2 pound class, and good catches of 20-30 fish per boat. It was easy to load up on smaller fish inside. One 6 pound tautog was registered, and the

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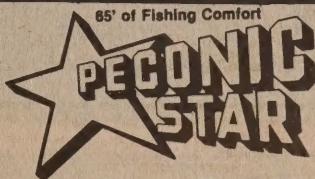
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NORTH FORK

The Mattituck charter boat, Capt. Bob, reported red hot floundering at the Northville Pipeline on Sunday. A group from Citi Bank Anglers put away 275-300 big flatties, with many in the 2 lb. class. Some blacks and mackerel were taken as well.

Warrens Tackle Center in Aquebogue will be picking up the Peconic Weakfish Tournament this year on May 17th-19th. Prizes will be awarded in four categories: overall, mens, ladies, and junior. A buffet at the Elks Lodge in Riverhead will conclude the tourney. For more information, call 722-4898.

Dave Brennan of the Peconic Star felt that the poor weather conditions, dirty seas, and weed, had slowed the sensational flounder fishing for the Greenport fleet to modest levels. Still there were some high spots. Larry Porter took John Rainis' charter with Al Goldberg's party into Pettys for a good catch Sunday with the Blue Albatross. Ed Czelatka's Sea Boots had a four-person charter on the Sound Saturday with 80 fish running up to over 2 pounds.

Dan Buckley of the Nancy Ann II called to say that he'll be fishing off Gardiner's this week and that an initial probe Saturday was encouraging. Despite poor water conditions, the boat had 30 outsized flatties. Sound fishing to the west was better than it was in Pettys for larger fish. Most of the Pettys fish are in the ¾ to 1¼ pound class, according to Richie Jensen of the Nancy Ann. However, Buckley had an average fish of 1½ pounds and a 2.12 pool winner in 30 feet of water to the west.

Richie Jensen told us about a slow pick for very nice sized flounder off Gardiner's on Saturday when his party took home 60 big fish from 2½ to 3 pounds. The heave made fishing difficult there. Jensen wants to let customers know that he has a number of open weakfish charters for the end of this month and early next.

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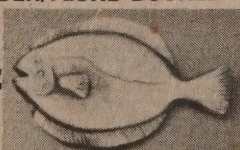
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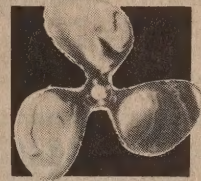
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Art White of the **A.P. White Bait Shop** reminded us that the season was changing when he mentioned local trap catches of weakfish and lots of squid. According to estimates by White and Jensen, the very early numbers of weaks augur well for the season ahead. From a very few tiderunners the week before, catches had jumped many hundreds of pounds, and there were even reports of a couple of early bluefish in gill nets.

The most optimistic note on the upcoming weak-and-blue-season was sounded by **Captain Martys**, where Sal Loria detailed the first rod-and-reel catch, 5 fish from 6 1/4 to 12 1/4 pounds, taken by John Brandozian and Ray Schott very early on Saturday morning in the South Race. Sand-worms and squid were the choice of bait. For those who still want flatties, Nassau Point has not quit producing.

Ace Cottal at the **Port of Egypt** fishing station heard of a pick of mackerel off Jessups, and Captain Martys had some as well on Sunday. Flounder catches on the south side of the Fork have dropped off, but there are still a few flatties around Cedar Beach Point, South Ferry, and west of Mashomack.

In the western sector of the Sound, Liz Carafitis at the **Mattituck Fishing Station** said that Saturday was very good off the Motel with smaller flounder in the 2 pound class. Numbers were very good, and there were a few tautog mixed in. Bob Ceglowski of the **Captain Bob** called to say that the pipe to the west had fish as well as the motel. Ceglowski figured that his 25-person charter from Citibank Anglers pulled over 200 fish on Sunday with alot of flatties in the 1 1/2 to 2 pound range. A number of macs were also taken along with a pick of tautog.

Anna May Rainis reminds **Blue Albatross** open boat fans that they ought to call ahead to help schedule trips for a few weeks while John is recovering from an infection. Tom

(Continued on page 67.)

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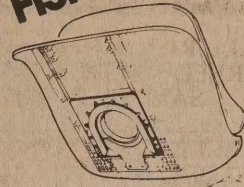
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High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet ... -0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." -0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK		BREAKWATER HARBOR		NEW YORK		NEW LONDON		WILLETTS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT		NEWPORT		DATE
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
THURS.	—	12:30	12:40	1:20	12:40	1:20	1:25	2:10	3:30	4:30	3:20	4:00	—	12:25	5/9
FRI.	12:50	1:30	1:40	2:20	1:35	2:20	2:25	3:20	4:45	5:45	4:20	5:00	12:45	1:25	5/10
SAT.	1:45	2:30	2:40	3:25	2:35	3:15	3:35	4:25	5:05	6:50	5:25	6:05	1:50	2:25	5/11
SUN.	2:45	3:30	3:45	4:30	3:30	4:15	4:45	5:35	7:15	7:50	6:25	7:05	2:50	3:25	5/12
MON.	3:45	4:30	4:50	5:30	4:30	5:10	5:50	6:25	8:15	8:40	7:30	8:00	3:50	4:20	5/13
TUES.	4:45	5:20	5:45	6:20	5:30	6:05	6:45	7:10	9:05	9:30	8:20	8:50	4:40	5:05	5/14
WED.	5:40	6:05	6:35	7:00	6:20	6:50	7:30	7:50	9:55	10:15	9:15	9:30	5:30	5:55	5/15
THURS.	6:25	6:45	7:20	7:40	7:05	7:30	8:10	8:25	10:40	10:55	10:00	10:15	6:15	6:35	5/16

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	-0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	-0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	-0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	-0 12
Seaside Park	-0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	-0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	-0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	-0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	-0 02
Rehoboth Beach	-0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	-0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	-0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	-0 38
Democrat Point	-0 38
Coast Guard Station	-0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	-0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	-0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00

Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	-0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	-0 20
Truman Beach	-0 42
Falkner Island	-0 13
Sachem Head	-0 10
Brantford Harbor	-0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	-0 08
Millford Harbor	-0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	-0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	-0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	-0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	-0 14
Montauk Inlet	-0 25
Montauk Point, north side	-1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	-0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	-0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	-0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10

Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higginum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	-0 10
Execution Light	-0 06
Manhasset Bay	-0 01
Hempstead Harbor	-0 11
City Island	-0 03
Rye Beach	-0 28
Port Chester	-0 09
Mamaroneck	-0 08
New Rochelle	-0 24
Davids Island	-0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	-0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	-0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spytten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	-1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	-0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	-0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	-0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	-0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 5/9	5:46	8:07
FRI. 5/10	5:45	8:08
SAT. 5/11	5:44	8:09
SUN. 5/12	5:43	8:10
MON. 5/13	5:42	8:11
TUE. 5/14	5:41	8:12
WED. 5/15	5:40	8:13

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 5/9	—	9:47AM
FRI. 5/10	1:38AM	10:55AM
SAT. 5/11	2:15AM	12:02PM
SUN. 5/12	2:45AM	1:08PM
MON. 5/13	3:10AM	2:10PM
TUE. 5/14	3:32AM	3:11PM
WED. 5/15	3:52AM	4:10PM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
4/20	4/28	5/4	5/11

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however. The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

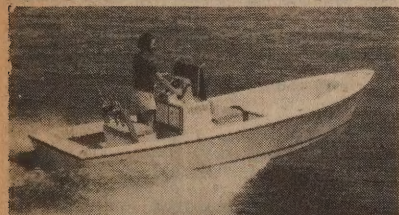
	AM	Major	Minor	PM	Major
Thurs.	10:10	4:00	10:45	4:30	
Fri.	11:15	5:05	11:45	5:30	
Sat.	—	6:00	12:10	6:25	
Sun.	12:40	6:45	12:55	7:05	
Mon.	1:20	7:25	1:35	7:45	
Tues.	2:00	8:00	2:10	8:20	
Wed.	2:35	8:35	2:45	8:55	
Thurs.	3:10	9:10	3:30	9:30	

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24' SLICKCRAFT 1975 Cuddy Fisherman. 888 Mercruiser. Low engine hrs. Fast, economical. Rigged for fishing. Incl. electronics & Porta-Potti. Excl. cond. \$8900. Eves: 516-489-4923.

84 ARROWGLASS 18' center console, 90 hp VRO Yamaha, PTT, SS Prop. HD trailer, Bimini, CB, FF. Extras; 20 hrs. \$10,400. Days: 516-673-2309. Eves: 516-467-0627.

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1968 "23" Uniflite, 225 Chrysler, FWC, new 1981, 400 hrs. Brand new trans, new Morse steering, dual batt., TT, elec. winch, auto bilge, spare anchor, spare prop, Si-Tex 256, CB, VHF. Full canvas. \$6000. After 5PM: 718-961-1998.

28' PICKERELL V-bottom Sharpy, steering console, 150 hp Mariner O/B. All open w/plenty of room for work or pleasure. Big & fast. Call after 4PM: 516-725-3267. \$9500.



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All 1985 EVINRUDES—Sale prices w/extended warranties. MARINELAND, Long Beach, 516-889-5000.

27' SPORTCRAFT, family, 1982, Turbo 260 Volvo Penta diesel. Economical 300 hrs., VHF, digital depthfinder & speedometer, AM/FM stereo cassette. Many extras. Excl. cond. Eves: 718-699-9045. Days: 212-838-4316.

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1978 CHRIS CRAFT Lancer 23', 250 hp, Volvo I/O. Pipewelders tower. Rigged for fishing. \$11,500. Eves: 718-347-6527. Wknds: 516-283-1197.



Capt. John DeMaio is selling the Montauk based charter boat VIVIANNE. A 1980 30' Repco hull made of solid fiberglass w/353 Detroit Diesel engine; 3 GPH cruise. This proven fishing machine is in perfect working order & is presently fishing. Compl. boat a bargain at \$23,000. New boat on its way. Must sell by end of spring. 516-668-5130.

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Striker 1977 - 37' aluminum, half tower. Full fish catchin' boat, teak cockpit, twin 671Tis. Radar, Loran, VHF, temp. Bridge, release riggers.

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1976 Bertram Flybridge, T-454 FWC. Outfitted for serious fishing.

SEA JAC BROKERS, 516-728-4220/6627

CRUISERS 1979/1980 22', Barnegat, 228 I/O, DF, VHF. CG Pkg. \$9900. 516-379-6844.

MUST SELL: WELLCRAFT 20' Deep V Fisherman center console, 140 hp I/O Mercruiser. Full instrumentation. Many extras. Excl. cond. With trailer. \$6500. 516-621-3022.

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32' MAINE-BUILT boat. Fiberglass over wood, 350 hp Chevy Crusader, FWC. Self-bailing decks. Excl. for all uses. \$6500. After 6PM: 516-567-8937.

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40' Chris Craft Flybridge Sedan, wood 38' Striker 671TI
38' Elco Aft Cabin Pilot House Cruiser
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45' 1973 Hatteras, tower, awlgrip, 871 Tis, Fla.
26 Bonita I/O 233 hp
31' Bertrams; several available
30' SeaRay Weekender
2 - 28' Luhrs Sedans - fiberglass
28' Uniflite Salty Dog, twin gas, tower
24' Aquasport, I/O, cuddy + outboard
23' Sea Bird, twin I/O
23' 236 Mako, 235 Evinrude, Loran
22' Penn Yan, flybridge
21' MFG, open sport
Brokerage—Insurance: Yacht delivery, donations
Call SEA JAC BROKERS, Jackson's Marina, 516-728-4220/6627. Tom or Chris.

1981 EVINRUDE 200 hp. Used 2 seasons. New water pump. Mint cond. \$3300. Eves: 718-634-9250.

1968 CHRIS CRAFT Lancer 23', glass 225 hp, Volvo I/O. Rigged for fishing. \$5000. Eves: 718-347-6527. Wknds: 516-283-1197.

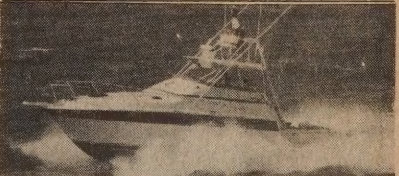
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1981 Century 5000, 23', 228 Merc. Less than 100 hrs. Full canvas & electronics. \$15,200 Neg. After 6PM: 516-546-2879.

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1983 STINGRAY 17 1/2 120 hp I/B-O/B w/trailer. \$8500. Night: 212-823-2902.

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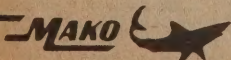
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1985 12'-26' Aluminum Skiffs, consoles, cuddys. DAVE BOFILL MARINE, 790 North Hwy, Southampton, NY. 516-283-6736.

Continued
On Next Page



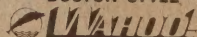
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27' PHOENIX 1980 225 Chrysler engines. Tower. Loaded offshore fishing machine. Priced to sell. Days: 212-246-4074. Nites: 516-997-7438.

1983 GRADY WHITE Tarpon 19' 115 Evinrude, PT&T, DF, compass, VHF. Full canvas. Down-rigger. 1985 Cox EZ Load Trailer. 324-0220.

1976 26' STAMAS FBSF, 2/6 cyl. Chrysler I/Bs. New canvas & electronics. Very clean boat. Can be seen in Plainview. \$21,900 Negotiable. 516-822-2559.



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CHRIS CRAFT Lancer, 1973 23' I/B 235 hp eng. Rebuilt last year, new manifolds. Cuddy cabin, Potti, full canvas. CG Pkg., VHF, depth finder. Excl. cond. Ready to fish. \$6800. Located in Bay Shore. Chris, Days: 212-535-0520. Eves: 212-254-8133.

1983 CHAPARRAL 19' 3" Beam 8' Bowrider 115 hp O/B Merc. PT&T. 30 hrs. Purchased new 1984, SS Prop. Full canvas. Like new. In water; will demo. \$8900. Days: 718-366-7191. After 7: 516-223-8676.

1982 GRADY WHITE 240 Offshore, 225 Mercury OB. Very clean. Low hrs. Apelco radio & chart recorder. Fully loaded. Price to sell. \$18,500. Eves. 914-476-3370.

LIKE NEW

33' CONCORDE Custom refinished & updated in '83. Only thing original is her hull. Completely rigged for the serious fisherman or cruising. Work & equip. too numerous to list. Call for details. \$58,000. Days: 516-744-1707. Eves: 516-587-4029.

GROVER 26 1977 6 cyl. Ford, rear controls, Si-Tex. \$22,000 Firm. After 6PM: 212-885-0523.

1979 GRADY WHITE 24' Weekender. Mint cond. 235 hp I/O low hrs. New outdrive, dual batt, T/T, Loran, depthfinder, compass, canvas. Shoreline EZ roll trailer. Asking \$16,500. Eves: 516-878-1961.

1983 25' SEA DEVIL 2.6 Litre V6. Used one season. Trim tabs, wash pump, twin batt. Full canvas; DF, VHF, Si-Tex CR. Much more. Must sell; new boat coming. 567-7905. 798-4747.

Pair 350 CI 250 hp. Full FWC engines & transmissions. Low hrs. Excl. Demo; warranty. Offers. 516-825-2222.

TOPAZ 28 1976 Twin 233 FWC Mercruisers, Loran, VHF, fishfinder, T/T, swim platform, winch, SW Washdown, flight chair. More. Clean. \$22,900. 718-667-1804.

1973 MARLIN, Aluminum trailer. Full mooring cover. Excl. cond. \$2500. 516-277-5185.

CHRIS CRAFT Fisherman 25'x10', twin 130 hp I/Bs FWC. Electronics, hydro steer, T/T. More. Must sell. \$16,000. 718-634-9483.

SEAWAY BOATS 17-26 center & cuddy. Commercial & Pleasure O/B I/O Inboard. VILLAGE MARINE, 516-298-5800.

RENKEN 80 17' Bowrider, 120 FWC Volvo, w/Galv. trailer, P/Winch, DF, CB, compass. Garage kept. Mint. \$6700. 516-795-4269.

Save on your next Sportfisherman. Great selection at South Florida prices. NAUTICAL SERVICES YACHT SALES, 305-832-3230.

23' CORRECT CRAFT center console I/B. T-top, canvas, electronics. Offshore rigged. Trailer. \$17,000. Eves: 516-399-2681.



21' CRUISER INC., '76 cuddy cabin, VHF, depthfinder. Complete new canvases. Stereo radio & tape; Porta-Potti, ice box, fish wells, swim platform. Auto bilge pump, 200 hp Johnson w/PT&T. Low hrs., Dual batt., 55 gal. gas tank, galv. trailer w/electric winch. Excl. family & fishing boat. Many extras. Immaculate cond. \$9000. 516-775-6303.

19' STARCRAFT Alum. Hardtop, 110 hp Mercruiser I/O. Shoreline Trl. Rigged for fishing. Excl. water-skiing. \$2500. 516-334-1886.

1979 SHAMROCK Cuddy cabin, 225 hp engine. Full canvas, 2 depth finders, swim platform. Great offshore boat. Asking \$11,500. Call: 727-3115.

26' GROVER BUILT 1978 120 hp Lehman diesel, 450 hrs. Teak decks, Si-Tex recorder/flasher, digital depth, VHF, outriggers, 1 1/2 gal/hr cruise. Ready to go. \$25,000. 516-324-1241.

LIKE NEW: 1977 Evinrude 200 hp O/B motor, w/power tilt & trim, full harness & stainless steel prop, new water pump. Low hrs. Asking \$2590. 516-289-0752.

28' BERTRAM 1980 Sportfisherman, twin 228 hp Mercruiser, FWC. Loran C, VHF, CB, Si-Tex depth recorder, outriggers, downriggers, live bait-well. Much more. \$55,000. 718-428-9558.

24' SEASPORT Boat Only. center console, Porta-Potti. Teak, bait & fish wells. Asking. \$3500. 758-7292.

83 AQUASPORT 286XF, twin 255 Commanders, FWC, 4 batt., T/T, Loran. Full cover, macerator, Maxi VHF depthfinder, engine sync, X-15 recorder. Great Boat! \$53,000. 212-724-3851.

24' 1983 PRIVATEER, 150 Johnson, cuddy. Full electronics. Many extras; mint. After 6PM: 914-237-6069.

36' MELANSON Built, Lobster Boat. Rigged for gill netting. Documented. Flasher, recorder, VHF, Ford Lehman diesel. \$16,500. Star Island Yacht Club, Montauk. 516-668-5052.

21' SPORTFISHERMAN cuddy, 200 Evinrude. Extras. Low hrs. Ready for water. \$13,500. 226-8994.

1985 Grady White 204C new, 83 150 hp. Demo, warranty-\$15,965

1983 Grady White 206 Islander, 2.6 ltr sea drive 20' 4". Loaded, lo hrs.-\$20,500

1980 Grady White 204 fisherman, 20'4" 150 hp John. galv. trailer. Loaded-\$12,950

1981 Grady White Wahoo 25 255 Mercruiser inbd, full Sw platform-\$24,900

1982 Grady White Bimini, 200 hp Johnson 22' loaded last boat-\$19,500

1981 Grady White Tarpon 18' 11", 100 hp P/T, camper top, navy top-\$8950

1984 Grady White 242 Offshore 24' 2.6 ltr sea dr. Loaded boat-\$24,000

1983 Privateer c/console 18' 70 hp Johnson. Loaded boat-\$8995

1982 Sportcraft c/console, 1984 Johnson 70 hp T/T, ext. available warranty-\$7800

1983 Dell Quey dory 13', 83-35 hp Johnson, custom canvas, swivel seats-\$4300

1982 Renkin 21' cuddy OMC 140 hp I/O. Sleeps 3-\$9950

1983 Dell Quey, new, 11', console. Boat only-\$1770

1984 Baja 16' boat only. Any motor combo-\$3600

1980 Chris Craft Scorpion totally recondition 21', 188 Merc I/O-\$13,995

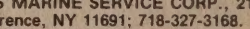
1965 Chris Craft 15' Boat only; any motor combo-\$850

1968 Sea Ray 17' Refurbished. Boat only. Any motor combo-\$795

1979 Mark Twain 19' OMC 200 hp I/O-\$5000.

1984 Grady White 24 Offshore leftover. New. 200 hp Johnson new-extras-\$23,995.

Lots more new & used boats available. Cross over the bridge & save.



EDDIE'S MARINE SERVICE CORP., 210 Bch. 2 St., Lawrence, NY 11691; 718-327-3168.

SEA RAIDER 17', 75 hp Mariner. Both brand new! \$6299. Water Ready. BAYHEAD MARINA, Rosedale, NY. 718-525-5724.



AFFORDABLE BOATS from 19'-23' suitable for work or Hard Play! OCEAN SCOUT BOATS, P.O. Box 73, Bristol, RI 02809. 401-253-4176/9196.

WELLCRAFT V20 cuddy, 1985 Evinrude 115, 1984 Cox EZ Loader Trlr. Very clean rig. \$10,000. 516-369-2790.

1983 BOSTON WHALER 17' Montauk, 70 hp Johnson, tach., compass, canvas. CG Pkg. Galv. trailer. Eves: 516-669-2231.

MERCURY

NEW 1983 MERCURY

3.5-\$399; 4.5-\$590; 7.5-\$700; 9.8-\$875; 18 electric-\$1200; 25 electric-\$1350; 40-\$1200; 115-\$2900; 150-\$3795; 200-\$4295. FOB/H WI. We ship anywhere. ELECTRA MARINE, 610 Merrick Rd., Lynbrook, NY 11563. 516-599-3003.

1978 16' JOHN DORY 1981, 15w hp Mariner 1981 trailer. Some extras. Excl. cond. Garage kept. \$1700. 516-981-4988.

WANTED-WANTED

17'-21' Baja, SuperBoat, Checkmate, Sutphen, Shadow, Cougar or any similar type used O/B speed boat. Motor not necessary. 914-235-0677.

1979 F.L. TRIPP 22' Complete Angler, 305 C.I. FWC I/B. Forward & stern controls, DF, VHF. \$12,900 Negotiable. After 6PM: 765-5675/5395.

1983 25' SEA DEVIL 2.6 Litre V-6. Used 1 season. Trim tabs, wash pump, twin batt. Full canvas; DF, VHF, Si-Tex CR. Much more. Must sell; new boat arrived. \$21,500. 567-7905. 798-4747.

SEA CRAFT 23' Sceptie 1980. New 1985 200 hp Merc, 1984 25 hp Merc. Loaded w/extras: Full canvas, 110 gal. gas tank, Porta-Potti, SW wash-down, live bait well. Electronics: Micrologic Loran, Raytheon & Motorola VHF, X-15 Lowrance & Si-Tex depth finders, Dytex sea temp, Johnson Cb. Shoreline EZ roller trl w/power winch. Boat in mint cond. A proven blue water record maker. Must sell; new boat has arrived! \$21,000 Neg. CAPT. CHARLES TOTA, Nina, 516-266-2769; 718-721-0064. *

38' 1979 BERTRAM Flybridge convertible, lower steering sta., 555 Cummings, 875 hrs; 7.5 KW Onan radar, VHF, depth, log, fish finder. Never fished. Good cruising boat. Not rigged for fishing. \$150,000. Call Al Lunt, 305-832-5868.

25' BERTRAM 1962. Repowered w/new 2.6 OMC Sea Drives. Does 50 knots. Need re-fiberglassing. \$14,000 or offers. SANDLER, Box 401, Hampton Bays, NY 11946.

24' PROLINE 1974 center console, 130 hp Volvo I/B. Spray Hood. Bimini, extras. \$5800. After 6PM: 516-671-7170.

23' SEA CRAFT 79 cuddy, 235 hp Evinrude. Full canvas, Loran, recorder, VHF, knotmeter, depth-finder, T/T, dual batt., Porta-Potti, outriggers. Live well, washdown. Much more. Mint. Best Offer. 516-271-0226.

ELECTRONICS: VHF, CB, Outriggers, 40' Bridge release-\$700. Mufflers 6"-Offers. Deck Box, big one. 516-728-6627.

1977 23' ROBALO center console, twin 115 Evinrudes, T-top, recorder, VHF, outriggers. \$11,000. After 5PM: 516-324-3451.

34' DOCUMENTED Charter Boat, twin FWC 318 Chryslers compl. rebuilt. All marine parts new. Fully equip; all electronics fully guaranteed. Full Bimini encl., 3 chairs. Compl. refastened 1984. Hull & eng. guaranteed. Buying bigger boat. Bargain \$8000/best offer. Full winter cover. Fully rigged for fishing. In water; ready to go! CAPT. JOE MC BRIDE, 516-588-1227/668-5995.

30' ULRICHSEN 1962 Sportfisherman, 250 hp Chrysler FWC, flybridge, dual controls. Outriggers, VHF, depth finder, 2 compasses. Dual batt., bilge pump, stand-up head. Sleeps 4. Many extras. In water; will demo. \$3800. 718-625-0334.

1976 27' SPORTCRAFT cuddy Fisherman, 235 hp OMC I/O. Dual batt., portable head. Electronics incl. Excl. boat for fishing or family use. \$11,500. 929-6746.

20' MANNINO V-sharpie center console, glass/wood 85 Mercury 2000 lb. trailer 1977. Mint work/fish machine. Extras. \$3500. Eves: 744-4389.

26' GROVER BUILT 1979 120 hp Ford Lehman diesel. Low hrs. Loaded. Very economical to operate. Set up for long range fishing & cruising. 516-354-2674.

SACRIFICE/Death: 19' Thunderbird Tri-Hull walkthru 150 Merc. O/B, depthfinder, dual batt. Full instrumentation. Custom canvas; much more. Must see. Sells itself. Best Offer. 718-769-3621.

23' PENN YAN tunnel drive. New engine & transmission '81. Si-Tex graph, full canvas, CB. New VHF; legal head, 225 hp Chrysler. Bottom painted. Ready to go. Will Demo. 516-589-0218.

3 VOLVO Aquamatic 100 lower units. \$100 ea. Offers. 2 new, 1 rebuilt. Sandler, Box 401, Hampton Bays, NY 11946.

28' TOPAZ 1974 center console cuddy, 454 Merc. repowered '81. New S/S tower w/controls. New tanks 84; 190 gals. Electronics. Full encl. 84. Cruise 30 mph & more. Great inshore/offshore. 516-371-4035.

OMC Electric Shift I/O drive, 1971; 307 cid Chev, 215 hp, FWC, 1975; 340 gentle hrs. Like new. Compl. w/controls, tach, gauges, 3 props, taken from 233 Formula. Pkg. ready to drop into your boat. \$3500. Bill: 516-722-4150.

TOPAZ Fisherman, 1977, 24' center console, cuddy cabin. Excl. cond. Custom Bimini, 233 Merc FWC, 700 hrs. Wkdys: 212-893-0600. Nights: 914-738-4057.

1977 26' STAMAS S.F. 270 Crusader. New 83 FWC, elec. anchor. Mecca recorder, CB, VHF, Hailer, shorePower, washdown, dual batt. Loaded. 516-727-4810.

1981 SPORTCRAFT 17' center console w/trailer, 1980 Evinrude 70 hp, DF. Much more; very clean. Must sell. \$5500. 718-426-2829.

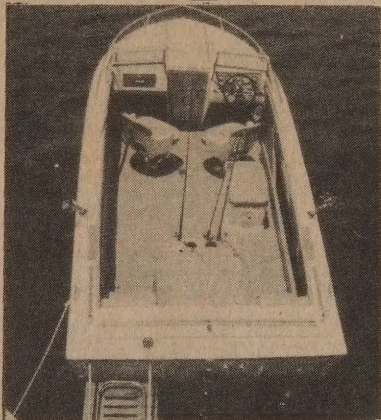
SEARS 7 hp O/B. Runs well. New carburetor. Recently tuned. \$250 Negotiable. Eves: 516-796-1809.

AQUASPORT 22-2 Family Fisherman w/200 hp Evinrude. Both 1976. Lowrance recorder, VHF, custom canvas. Extras. Well kept. \$9500. Eves: 516-861-1591.

28' 1979 80 Bertram S/F. Mint cond. 700 hrs. Radar, VHF, Loran, white line recorder, outriggers, fishing chair. Many extras. Must see. 201-933-8076 After 6PM. 516-725-1446 Wknds.

24' 1980 WELLCRAFT 248 Sportsman, 260 I/O w/'83 Evin. 15 hp FWC. Camper canvas, FM, ST, cas., Loran, Fish f., odom, fume deli, S. temp. DF, 2 batts, 2 bilge, EZ Load tand tr. & more. Excl. cond. 20K. Of: 315-732-5109. Home: 315-853-8501.

Stingray



SPORTFISH 19' 120 hp Mercruiser. Pkg. incl. 6 rod holders, cooler, sun top. Full instrumentation; lockable storage; 2 fishing chairs, Stern plat., SS HANDRAILS* P/T, CG pkg. Fish ready. \$11,490. WHITE WATER MARINE, Sayville, 516-589-2502

30' SEA RAY WEEKENDER 1979. Twin 330s. All electronics. Fully equip. for fishing incl. outriggers, fish box, folding chair. Much more. Ask: \$33,000. Andy, wkdays: 212-354-6279.

SUZUKI OUTBOARDS: 2hp-\$299; 140hp w/oil injection, PT&T-\$3907, + make ready & installation. DON'S MARINA, 516-399-3330.

INTL 16' w/1979 85 hp Evinrude. Full canvas, trailer, CB, DF, VHF. \$3100. 516-586-4601.

CHAPARRAL 204V cuddy '82 175 Evinrude O/B, DF, CB, Porta-Potti. Full Bimini encl., mooring cover. Extras. '82 Shoreline tlr w/new power winch. Excl. \$12,800. Eves: 516-681-2779.

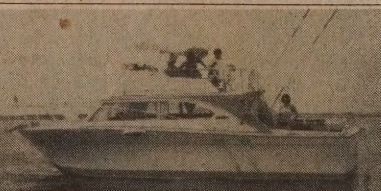
1982 AQUASPORT 20' Walkaround 150 Merc, PT, electronics, Bimini; EZ Loader trailer. Excl. \$14,500. 914-762-1345 Aft. 5. 516-728-4506 Wknd.

TOPAZ 28 S/F, TMD 40-A Volvos, 550 hrs. Full electronics. Too much to list. Canyon Ready. T-Key oper. No Brokers. 201-768-0945/568-7993.

22' MAKO. Excl. cond. w/25' E-Z Loader tandem trailer. Loaded; selling due to illness. Eves: 516-754-9276.

1982 22' GRADY WHITE Walkaround cuddy, 1982 200 hp Evinrude, VHF, compass, depth finder. Many extras. \$15,700. Boat kept on L.I. Sound. Wkdys: 201-829-7695. Eves: 201-461-8670 Ask for Al.

1983 MAKO 224, 1983 Mercury 200 hp O/B. This boat & motor professionally rigged & maintained. Pkg. incl: stainless prop, leaning post rocket launcher, dual batt. w/crossover switch, hydraulic steering, console cover, 4 built-in rod holders, stainless steel offset rod holders for trolling. Anchor & anchor rope, Loran, Lowrance X-15 chart recorder, Horizon standard USA radio—52 channel; auto/manual bilge pump, compass PT&T on motor. Totally Mako from start to finish. Excl. cond. Asking \$16,900. Call Russ Wilson at The Fisherman, 201-840-8600 for details or to see boat.



FOR SALE: Silverton 33' 1973. Sleeps 6. Fully equip. Dual stations, twin Chrysler engines, FWC, electric anchor, alcohol stove, refrig., swim ladder, 6 life preservers, fire extinguishers, UHF ship to shore radio, depthfinder, 4 Cpts. chairs. Bimini top-1-yr-old. Canvas covering-flying bridge, cockpit, outriggers. Mahogany flag pole & flag. Nautical access—3 lamps, ashtrays, curtains, wall hangings, etc. Excl. cond. Asking \$20,000. After 5PM: 516-328-1496.

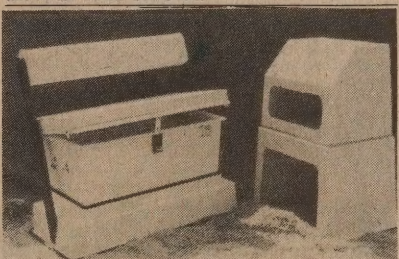
30' EGG HARBOR S.F. Reblt 225s, 300 gal. fuel, Loran, CB, VHF, gin pole, riggers, enclosure. Good cond. \$22,00. 516-422-4441.

22' CHRIS CRAFT Sportsman center console, 200 hp Merc 1984 oil inj., VHF, CB, DF, dual batt. Many extras. \$10,500. Eves: 516-587-2078.

15' PERFORMER center console, 40 hp Elec. start Mariner. \$3999. BAYHEAD BOAT SALES, Rosedale, 718-525-5724.

BOATING EQUIP.

Telfely Dual Station steering cable. Never used. A 11' B 21' width, two big T helms. Asking \$200 for all. After 6PM: 281-5164.



CONSOLES-\$225. Cooler seats 55 qt.-\$429; 85 qt.-\$489. Wholesale marine supplies to the public; bulk orders. Cash only. 783-8862.

FOR SALE

1 set Warner reduction gears 1.9:1-\$650. 1 set L/R Props 20x20x1-3/8-\$325. Props have been reconditioned & balanced. Days: 516-481-8500. Eves: 516-826-5378.

BOAT SEATS, back to back, fold-downs. Excl. Used 1x. Green w/white trim. \$100 ea. 516-485-9660.

LORAN C TI 9000 A w/coupling & antenna. Set up for dual station. Factory refurbished last season. Will demo. In original pkg. w/operation manual. Excl. cond. \$350. Mike, 718-565-5848.

MECCA 415D White Line recorder. Heavy duty aluminum case & bracket. 400' cap. New 200H2 transducer. 3 rolls paper. Works great. \$125. Call FR: 516-499-2288.

SEAT for Mako or Grady White. Eves: 516-754-9276.

CALKINS Galvanized Trailer Sale. PORT OF EGYPT, Main Rd., Southold. 516-765-2445.

KOHLER 7.5KW Generator, 110-120, 62 amps. 4 cyl., electric start, gas, liquid cooled, fuel tanks. Excl. After 5:30PM. 757-3705.

BOAT TRAILER for Sale: 1976 Highlander for 16' boat. New wheel bearings, new springs, new rollers. \$500. 516-754-0571. 914-698-7179.

VHF Radio, Ray Jefferson; 2 weather channels & 8 working stations. Good cond. Asking \$125. 516-928-9838.

BOAT OWNERS: Full set covers. Navy top, side curtains, back drops. Frames not included. To 22'. First quality Chrysler vinyl. \$285. FOREAN KUSTOM, 549-9489.

TRAILER HITCHES—The most complete Draw-Tite line of Class I & II hitches in stock on Long Island. Sales, installations & service. TOM CASH WELDING, Lake Ronkonkoma. 516-JU 8-6143.

GEMTRONICS Chart recorder, Model G.T.103: white line w/flasher, transducer. Instruction book. Zero hours since factory service. \$185. Eves: 212-324-4627.

BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT: Single & Tandem Axle. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & permanent hitches for sale or rent. BARN TRAILER SERVICE, 57-05 B'way, Woodside, NY. 718-426-7039.

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Photovoltaic 12VDC generating/charging systems for marine electronics & appliances. For Free info & magnetic chart holder write or call: SUN ARRAYED, INC., Box 372, Roslyn Hts., NY 11577; 516-625-3041.

**Continued
On Next Page** ➡

BOAT TRAILER REPAIR. Complete w/all new galvanized parts. **FAZIO MFG., INC.,** 1121-16 Lincoln Av, Holbrook, NY 11741. 516-563-2263.

CUSTOM MARINE WOODWORK. No Job Too Small—tackle lockers, instrument enclosures, consoles, bow pulpits, etc. Interior & exterior repairs & restorations. **CUSTOM MARINE CARPENTRY,** 516-623-1639.

T-TOP Kits—stainless steel & teak electronic boxes. **FOREAN KUSTOM CANVAS,** 549-9489.

RADAR, Loran, autopilots, VHF, SSB, fish recorders. Sales & service most major brands. Custom installations. **MARITIME COMMUNICATIONS, INC.,** 377 Woodcleft Av, Freeport, NY. 516-623-4421.

COMPASSES—COMPASSES—COMPASSES Remember, if it has anything to do with compasses at all, give me a call! Huge inventory of Ritchie compasses. Expert installation & adjustment. Authorized repair service. I also carry a complete line of binoculars, sextants, clocks, barometers. **JENS JACOBS NAUTICAL SERVICE,** 516-757-7169.

RAYTHEON Model 1210 single side band Marine radio, 25W. \$250. 516-667-1010.

FISHING TACKLE

Two 4/0 Penn w/line & tuna trolling rods—\$75 ea.; 3, 3/0 Penn w/wire line & trolling rod w/carbolyd guides—\$65 ea; 850 yds. Monel wire, 40 lb. test—\$50. Shoulder harness—\$25. 516-798-2025.

300 Crack reel; Zebco Cardinal reels—4, 6, 7. Mitchell reels original—Collectors. Penn Spin-fisher Green—Collectors. Parts & spools for Cardinal Reels—4, 6, 7. Bronco Surf Lure Bags. Assorted Pflueger, Creek Chub, Pt. Judith, Big-O-Chugers; Killer, Rebel Red Eye lures—Collectors. Eves: 516-754-9276.

SILVER FLEX WIRE LINE

Stainless steel line that has the softness & flexibility of Monel, w/greater strength & smaller diameter per lb. test at a fraction of the cost. Avail. on money saving bulk spools. 100% satisfaction guaranteed. 30 lb., .020, 4500'—\$56.95; 40 lb., .023, 3500'—\$44.75; 50 lb., .025, 3000'—\$43.85; 60 lb., .028, 2400'—\$42.95. Add \$1.70 shipping. **BAY CITY TACKLE,** P.O. Box 253, Agawam, MA 01001. 413-786-3706.

FLUKE KILLER RIGS—the original & the best. The ultimate in deadly, double hook design. You'll hook more & lose fewer fluke, since fish can't avoid the fully adjustable tail hook. Hand tied of finest materials. 3 completely tied rigs for \$4. Our 12th year—avoid imitations. Send ck or M.O. to: **P. MILLER,** 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566.

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Stainless steel line that has the softness & flexibility of Monel, w/greater strength & smaller diameter per lb. test at a fraction of the cost. Avail. on money saving bulk spools. 100% satisfaction guaranteed. 30 lb., .020, 4500'—\$56.95; 40 lb., .023, 3500'—\$44.75; 50 lb., .025, 3000'—\$43.85; 60 lb., .028, 2400'—\$42.95. Add \$1.70 shipping. **BAY CITY TACKLE,** P.O. Box 253, Agawam, MA 01001. 413-786-3706.

FREE—FREE! A package of snelled hooks, absolutely free. Order our **CUSTOM TACKLE CATALOG;** LOW PRICES! \$1 refundable on order, to: **D&D CUSTOM ROD & TACKLE,** 8664 15th Av, Dept. LIF, Bklyn, NY 11228.

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Limited number of power casting blanks For Sale from distance casting champ, **Ron Arra.** 617-362-2066.

CHEAP! Cheap! Cheap! Everything at **Edelman's** is inexpensive. Humungus inventory; spectacular prices. Open always. See ad page 2.

DEADLY FLOUNDER RIGS

Tangle-free, tandem tied w/special stand-off knot. Used by sharpies. Sproat hooks for more hook-ups. 3/\$3.75 inc. p/h. **BILL SMITH,** 158 Vermont Ave., Bay Shore, NY 11706.

FLOUNDER KILLER RIGS. Flounder are committing suicide on this famous 3-hook rig especially designed for the "meat fisherman." Special design & construction keeps tangles at a minimum. All hand-made finest quality material. 3 completely tied rigs for \$3.90. Send check or M.O. to: **P. MILLER,** 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566. Our 13th year.

DALE CLEMENS Custom Rod Bldg. Supplies exclusively at **LINDENHURST BAIT & TACKLE.** Extra 10% discount w/Ad. 226-9030.

CUSTOM RODS Built to match the reel & fish. Rods repaired; guides re-wrapped. Eves: 516-794-7299/794-1992.

WANTED: Fenwick Trolling rod 50# traditional brown. Discontinued model 640 only. Good cond. a must. 212-222-3325.

2 Fin-Nor 12/0 Specials w/Ande & 2 Fin-Nor 130# poles: 1 bent, 1 straight. \$2800. 1 80# graphite pole; bent butt, custom. \$500. 201-941-4285

CUSTOM MOLD Service: send sample jig, squid or sinker & \$35 to: **M.C. PARENT,** Box 25244, Tamarac, FL 33320

CATCH MORE FISH—with superior designed saltwater rigs. Send for Free Catalog now! **HUDSON TACKLE,** Dept. I, P.O. Box 437, Kearny, NJ 07032.

NEWELL P440T reel. Like new w/350 yds. 40 lb. mono line. 4/0 capacity. \$59. Call **JR:** 516-499-2288.

MISCELLANEOUS

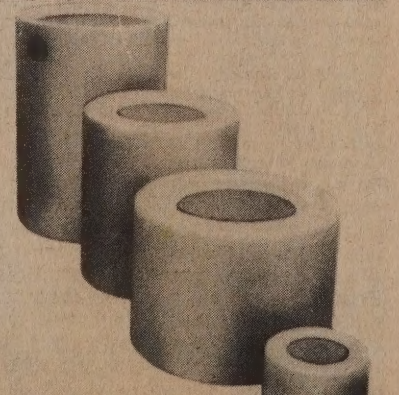
WANTED—Reliable netter to supply me with freshly caught sand eels & shiners. 281-4159. Delivered Suffolk area.

MOBILE MARINE WELDERS

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Bernhardt and Larry Porter will be
handling the charters.

Larry Ciccotto of the **Prime Time III**
from **Orient** called to tell us that he
had alot of flounder from Pettys,
Orient over the weekend. Although
the sizes had dropped from last week,
there was nevertheless one 18 inch,
2½ pound flattie in the Petty's haul.
Ciccotto is very, very pleased with his
new craft and says he's got lots of
room.

Finally, porgy fans should note that
Richie Jensen had the first scup of the
season in Pettys on Thursday in 60
feet of water!

Freshwater REPORT with Tom Schlichter

A combination of unfavorable
winds and some much needed rain
worked to discolor many of the
Island's freshwater lakes and streams
late in the week, causing some
anglers to stay at home. Early in the
week, action with bass, pickerel, trout
and panfish was fair.

Speaking from **Causeway Bait and
Tackle** in Wantagh, a busy Mike
Nicoletti had time to say that pickerel,
bass, and crappie fishing has remained
steady at the Twin Lakes. South
Lake has been the most productive of
the two, and anglers using live killie
baits have been getting the best
action.

From **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle**,
Mike Andreani reported that he had a
slow week on the freshwater side. A
few pickerel are still being taken at
Southards Pond in Babylon and from
Belmont Lake.

Tom at **Augie's Bait and Tackle** in
Babylon also reported a relatively
slow week, but knew that anglers
were doing well on trout in the Carl's
River system. Worms or Rooster
Tail lures seem to be doing the trick.
Some white perch are still being
culled from the waters near Bergen
Point.

Over at **Edelman's Sport Shop** in
Farmingdale, Fred Lager reports
that trout fishermen enjoyed a pretty
good week. Dave Schweider checked
in a 2½ lb. brook trout taken from site
#15 inside Connetquot River State
Park. Dave used a black marabou
muddler minnow to fool the big
brookie. Sal Prevette also fished the
park this week and used a grey ghost
streamer to connect with a 20"
rainbow trout and used the same fly to
take several pickerel from Southards
Pond. Fred added that he talked with
an unidentified angler who fished
White's Pool in the tidal section of the
Nissequogue River and nailed an 18"
brown trout Saturday afternoon.

Fred Kruse of **Pine Grove Outfitters**
left word that a few warm days in the
beginning of the week were all that
was needed to get the action on Lake
Ronkonkoma rolling. Live bait, rubber
worms and bright colored spinner-
baits accounted for plenty of bass up
to 3 lbs. with a few 4-5 lb.ers. mixed
in. Plenty of panfish available.

From Connetquot River State Park
in Oakdale, Park Manager Gil Bergen
reports the high waters and dis-
coloration caused by this Thursday's
heavy rains actually helped the
fishing. The weekend was especially
productive with plenty of trout taken.
A 5 lb. rainbow caught in the main
pond was the largest fish this week.

Over in Caleb Smith State Park,
Mike Venuti said he had a 17" brook
trout taken Tuesday. Fishing through
the week was average for good sized
rainbows, but slowed on the rainy
days.

Speaking from his **J&J Bait and
Tackle Shop** in Patchogue, Paul
Graniello said that the local lakes are
loaded with trout. Especially is this
the case with West Lake in Patchogue
which is underfished. Anglers here
have been using flies to dupe average
and small sized browns and rainbows.
A few larger fish are also mixed in.
Paul also mentioned that despite
rough winds, the first day of pickerel
season was quite satisfying, with a 2
lb. fish the largest weighed in. This
was taken by Darrel Yeager in
Cannon Lake. The Mill Pond has also
been giving up some nice pickerel
with killies the best bait. Paul asked
me to inform you that he now has
killies in stock.

Out in South Haven Park, the word
this week was that the rain, winds and
runoff conspired against fishermen
working Hard's Lake. A 14" rainbow
was the largest fish recorded on the
lake this week and no reports were
entered from the "flies only" section.

George Devlin of the **Fisherman's
Deli** in Riverhead, called the fishing
"better before the rain" as high,
dirty, water really seemed to put a
damper on the weekend action. On
Wednesday, Dave Bunai of Port
Jefferson, managed 3 pickerel and
four bass on rubber worms from the
Peconic River. Thursday he returned
to take 3 bass and a pickerel.

Captain Bill Johnson of **Odyssey
Charters** in Rochester, NY reports
that heavy boat traffic in the shallow
waters of Lake Ontario has tempo-
rarily pushed the trout and salmon out
to deeper water. Bill has been working
between 20 to 30 feet below the
surface in 65 feet of water. Early in
the week he had one charter which
tangled with 8 chinook salmon to 20
lbs. and a 12 lb. laker. Some 8 to 12
lb. rainbows have also been taken.
Lures with black or silver finishes hav
been the most productive.

Just a reminder to bass fishermen
before we close this week. The large-
mouth bass season does not officially
open until June 1st. All bass taken
before that date must by law be
released unharmed.

Andrew was here 5/27/88

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AD GOOD THRU
MAY 23, 1985



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